

THE NATIONAL **Wool Grower**

The National Wool Growers Association

1865



1945

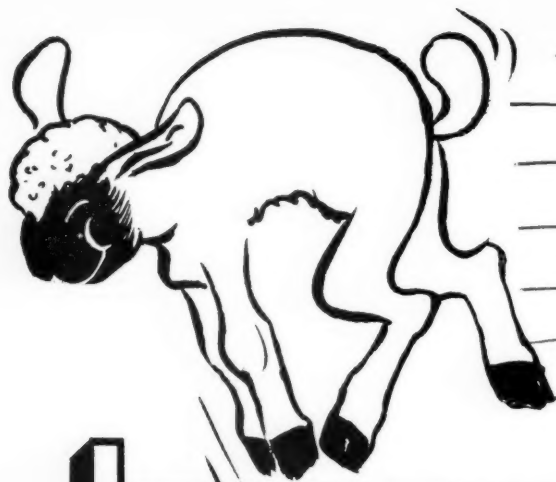
**80 YEARS OF SERVICE
TO THE SHEEP INDUSTRY**

ANNUAL CONVENTION NUMBER

NUMBER 1

JANUARY, 1945

VOLUME XXXV



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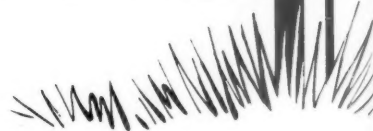
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The Cutting Chute

Associate Chief Forester Retires

Earle H. Clapp's retirement as associate chief of the U. S. Forest Service was announced by the Department of Agriculture on December 11. His activities with the Forest Service cover 40 years, during which he organized and developed its research program, supervised the preparation of the "National Plan for American Forestry," held to be the most comprehensive report ever gotten out on the American forest situation, and in various other ways advanced the proper use and maintenance of the forest resources. Mr. Clapp became associate chief in 1935 and during the period 1939-1943, served as acting chief forester.

The Surplus War Property Board

Two of the three members of the board which will handle the disposition of surplus war property have been confirmed by the Senate: Governor Robert A. Hurley of Connecticut and Lieut. Col. Edward Heller of California. Senator Guy M. Gillette, it is reported, will be appointed as the third member, following his retirement from the Senate this month. Meantime, Mason Britton is serving as Administrator of Surplus War Property, having been appointed to that post by Director Byrnes following W. L. Clayton's elevation to Assistant Secretary of State.

How to Get Lumber

Farmers who need lumber for emergency maintenance and repair of farm dwellings should now apply to the War Food Administration for preference ratings instead of to the War Production Board field offices. The Office of Civilian Requirements of the W.P.B. has transferred 15,000,000 board feet of lumber from its allotment for the first quarter of 1945 to take care of the emergency needs of farmers.

Farm Machinery Outlook Not Good

This fall it was indicated that the situation in regard to farm machinery was easing up a bit; now the picture is different, and little new machinery is expected to be in use in 1945, less than 3 per cent of the total, some estimates say. This indicates the necessity for early placing of orders for replacement parts. Of 20 items of farm machinery manufactured in the period July 1 to October 31, 1944, production fell below schedules on all but a few items. At a meeting of the Farm Machinery and Equipment Industry Advisory Committee with W.P.B. officials in Washington, December 8, the hope was expressed that the manufacturers would be able to reach their quotas more nearly before June 30, 1945. Production of replacement parts was reported close to schedule by the larger manufacturers.

Burlap Imports Increase

Considerable increase in burlap importations is indicated by the allocation of the W.P.B. for bag making during the first quarter of 1945, which amounts to 96,500 bales or about 193 million yards.

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VOL. XXXV

NUMBER 1

JANUARY, 1945

509 Pacific National Life Building
Salt Lake City 1, Utah

J. M. Jones
Irene Young

Editors

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES—Payment of dues in the National Wool Growers Association includes a year's subscription to the National Wool Grower. Dues and subscriptions are received along with state association dues by the secretaries shown for the following states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. To non-members in the United States and Canada \$1.50 per year; foreign \$2.00 per year. Entered as Second Class Matter, January, 1913, at the Post Office at Salt Lake City, Utah, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 8, 1917, authorized August 23, 1918.



[A simplified Annual Report of the American Railroads
in their third year at war]

IN 1944, the railroads rendered to the American public the greatest volume of service ever performed by any agency of transportation.

For doing this job, they received about 9½ billion dollars. That's a lot of money—but most of it was earned by hauling tremendous tonnages of freight for less than one cent per ton per mile and carrying passengers for even less than before the first World War.

Out of every dollar the railroads received—

38¢ was paid out in pay rolls.

29¢ was paid for materials and

supplies of all sorts and other operating expenses.

19¢ was paid in taxes—federal, state and local.

7¢ was paid in interest, rents and other charges—a great share of which went to insurance companies, savings banks, endowed institutions.

2¢ was paid in dividends to stockholders.

5¢ was left over in "change" to cover all such things as restoring roadways and equipment after the war, paying off debts, and providing reserves for the improvement of plant and the modernization of service necessary to keep pace with American progress.



AMERICAN RAILROADS
ALL UNITED FOR VICTORY

Corn Loan Program

Loans based on 90 per cent of the parity price of corn as of October 1, 1944, will be available to producers at the beginning of the marketing years. Previously the loan has been based on 85 per cent of parity; new rate complies with Section 8 of the Stabilization Act of 1942, as amended.

Feed Supplies

While supplies of feed concentrates are reported as about 4 per cent less than last year, the reduction in livestock numbers insures more feed per animal unit. Supplies of the four principal feed grains are said to be larger than last year's and those of by-product feeds, the largest on record.

Wheat Ceiling Increased

An increase of 4 cents a bushel in the ceiling price of wheat was announced by the O.P.A. during the week of December 18; said to be necessary to fulfill the requirements of the Stabilization Extension Act of 1944.

Ceilings and Support Price For Hogs

Effective December 13, 1944, all weights of hogs except sows, stags and boars, were given a ceiling price of \$14.75, a hundred-weight, Chicago basis. Ceilings on sows, stags and boars were set at \$14. Formerly, weights above 270 pounds were discounted 75 cents; that is, the ceiling, Chicago basis, was \$14. A record corn crop and improvement in supplies of other types of feed brought out the new order. It is expected that farmers will feed hogs to greater weights and enlarge the pork and lard supplies.

Support prices have also been extended to hogs weighing 200 to 270 pounds; previously they applied only to 200- to 240-pounders. This price is \$12.50 a hundred-weight on good and choice butcher hogs in Chicago, which is \$2.25 below the maximum ceiling price at that point. The same relationship will exist between the support prices and ceilings at other markets and buying stations. These support prices will be effective until June 30, 1945.

Wool Labeling In Australia

The various states of the Commonwealth of Australia are considering the enactment of a wool labeling law framed along lines similar to the Wool Products Labeling Act of this country, F. E. Ackerman, Executive Director of the American Wool Council, states. According to information received by him in November, the law, known as the Goods (Textile Products) Act, 1944, had been passed by the State of Victoria and probably two other states. Of particular interest is the fact that the same terminology is used in the Australian measure as in our own act; that is, the terms, Wool, Reprocessed Wool and Reused Wool are used with the same definitions as in the American act.

Word also comes from London through the press that an effort to make compulsory textile labeling universal after the war will be an important project of the International Wool Secretariat.

(Continued on page 4)

The National Wool Grower



Pictures of champions continue to pour in

HUNDREDS of pictures—year after year—are mailed to the Albers Milling Company.

Pictures of animals that have won Grand Champion honors in shows all over America.

Every one of these champions was raised and fitted with CALF MANNA.

Those who have fed it the longest praise it the most!

Send to Albers Milling Company, Calf Manna Dept. AB-1, 1060 Stuart Bldg., Seattle 11, Wash., for free information pamphlet "Commonsense Feeding of Livestock"



WHAT IS IT?

- ... it spreads like fire
- ... it causes severe weight loss
- ... it contaminates the soil
- ... it attracts screw worm flies



... IT'S EASILY PREVENTED WITH CUTTER ECTHYMA VACCINE

Sure, it's *Soremouth*! Get rid of this No. 1 headache by routinely vaccinating with Cutter Ecthyma Vaccine. Any time, any season. It's simple—just apply vaccine to scratch on flank. Protects feeder lambs and mature animals, too. Order vaccine locally, or direct from

CUTTER LABORATORIES

Berkeley, California

Davis F. T. C. Head

Edwin L. Davis, member of the Federal Trade Commission since 1933, became its chairman for the third time on January 1. The chairmanship rotates annually among the five members of the Commission, not more than three of whom may belong to the same political party. Mr. Davis is a Democrat, from Tennessee. The F.T.C. handles the enforcement of the Wool Products Labeling Act.

Protect the Returning G. I. From Land Frauds

The Kansas City Times of December 22, 1944, tells of a discharged serviceman who paid his life savings of \$4,000 as the initial payment on a farm for \$12,000, and later learned the current sale value of the same property was \$8,000, and that it could produce only about \$5,000 worth of crops to cover the owner's living, taxes and payments on indebtedness.

The farm press has been asked to suggest to the parents of service men and others interested in their welfare that they induce the boys to obtain competent and reliable advice before making any land purchases. The county agricultural advisory committees have been suggested as a reliable source for information about farming lands.

Game Commissioners Discuss Predator Question

Control of predators was given considerable attention by the Western Association of Fish and Game Commissioners, meeting in Salt Lake City, December 12, 1944. A special committee on the subject, appointed in Phoenix last May and headed by James O. Beck of Idaho, recommended that in the eleven western states covered by the association the funds for this control work be prorated among the various interested organizations, such as sportsmen, cattlemen, sheepmen, land owners, etc. They also suggested that a study of the habits of various predators should be made in each state and of the damage they do, and that state boards of control should be set up to coordinate trapping districts. A recommendation was also made that bounties be paid only on mountain lions and this in limited areas.

Australian Drought

Some alleviating rains fell in the Australian sheep country in October and early November, according to the Pastoral Review of November 16, but in most sections they were too late and not of sufficient volume to counteract the damage done by the previous severe drought. High sheep losses have been reported, although in some instances it has been possible to move flocks to better grazing areas and thus prevent still greater depletion. The results of this drought will undoubtedly be felt in a smaller wool clip next year.

1944 Hay Production

Total hay production in 1944 is estimated at 98 million tons as compared to 100 million tons in 1943 and a 10-year average of 85 million tons. About 32 per cent of it is alfalfa.



The Staley Customer NEVER GUESSES—He Knows!

Staley Soybean Oil Meal Pellets were introduced and have been maintained, on a "top-quality" basis, to meet the specific needs of the western rancher.

Throughout the critical protein shortage we have supplied each Staley customer with his fair share of our Soybean Oil Meal Pellets.

A. E. STALEY MFG. CO.

(Feed Division)

DECATUR, ILLINOIS

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NEW YEAR'S 1945



G. N. WINDER

I wish to take this opportunity to extend New Year greetings to all the sheep growers of the country.

We have passed through one of the most trying years in our history, but I feel that we can look to the future with a little more hope and optimism. In times like these we must not become disheartened and give up. The country needs the products of our industry, so we must produce to the full extent of our plants.

It is in emergencies of this kind that the results of cooperative effort and action become so evident. I appreciate the cooperation and help that has been given me and the other officers and staff by the members of the National

Wool Growers Association in carrying out the functions of the Association and ask that you continue to support the organizations that are set up to protect and foster our industry.

G. N. WINDER, President

Your National

ON December 12, 1944, the National Wool Growers Association completed 79 years of work for the sheep industry.

Originally organized in the East, the Association's headquarters have been moved west as the major part of the sheep industry has moved west. The National today is supported by most of the sheep-producing states of this western country.

The objectives of the National 79 years ago were the protection and progress of the sheep industry. Those objectives today are the same. The Association is a non-profit, service organization with any benefits received by its supporting members accruing to every producer of sheep, wool, and lambs in the United States. The National neither sells nor buys for or from the producer. Its only interest is the welfare of the sheep industry. Only by maintaining this position is it possible to speak for the industry without fear of contradiction or suspicion.

It is particularly important today for the National to maintain its prestige to insure effectiveness. There is no doubt that the industry is operated under a controlled economy and that every action is directed from Washington, D.C. Upon our Senators and Congressmen are based our hopes for the welfare of the industry. They must have confidence that the National is truly representative of the wishes of their constituents. It is the duty of the Legislative Committee of the National to keep them informed as to the needs of the growers.

Unfortunately, there are misunderstandings and, fortunately or unfortunately, there are differences of opinion as to what is the best procedure to follow on many problems. The policies of the National are directed by the growers. It is the growers' responsibility to define these policies, and the National's duty to execute them. The National Wool Growers Association is proud of its actions. The accomplishments in many instances are debatable, but not the sincerity of action. The only true "yardstick" of the National's sincerity of purpose is its actions.

The Record in 1944

The year 1944 has been a turbulent one for the sheep industry. Increased costs of production without compensating increases in the prices for sheep, lambs and wool; the shortage and inefficiency of labor; restrictions and limitations under government control,—all have taken their toll in the sheep industry, and unfortunately the end is not in sight. Only by coordinated effort and action can our industry progress and profit.

Your National has had the wholehearted support of many of our Senators and Congressmen and the cooperative effort of many officials in the various branches of our government. Only through the assistance and aid of these men have accomplishments been possible.

The activities of your National have been many in 1944. Many of them have been a continuation of 1943 activities. One of the first actions taken by your National was the attempt to get all wools in the hands of one agency for proper distribution. This was never accomplished, but the National's attitude has not changed. There remain four or five government agencies buying and selling wool in addition to commercial importers. The result is that importations are at record heights and domestic wool has been piling up. However, recent wool requirements of our government have placed domestic wool in a more favorable light (see Wool in Review, this issue).

Work to secure adjustments or abolishment of meat rationing was continued in early January when spoilage of meat was taking place in the East.

In early February, meetings were held with the Defense Supplies Corporation and the Commodity Credit Corporation for the purpose of working out the tangled wool situation, but to little avail.

On February 14, exhaustive hearings on the sheep industry were held before the subcommittee of the Committee on Agriculture, House of Representatives. The testimony was completed on March 28. These hearings produced many important facts concerning the industry,

including cost of production, use of domestic wool by the Army and Navy, purchasees of wool by various government agencies, War Production Board's wool regulations and limitations, the Commodity Credit Corporation's wool purchase program, appraisals, and the core testing of wool.

The sheep industry's testimony was given entirely by members of the National Wool Growers Association, its legislative committee, and state wool grower officials and growers. This hearing has been the basis for much of our present work.

The Commodity Credit Corporation's life was extended on February 28 until July 1, 1945. The representatives of the National worked for its continuance.

During March and April, your Legislative Committee, together with Executive Committee members of the National and growers, presented the entire testimony on behalf of the industry when the extension of the Office of Price Administration was being considered. Although many of the remedies for improvement in price control that were suggested never materialized, the position of the growers was clearly stated.

Representatives of the National Wool Growers Association attended the hearings held by the Commodity Credit Corporation on the 1944 Wool Purchase Program and were the only protestants against the increased handling charges allowable against the grower.

In the same month, your representatives assisted in securing an appropriation for the enforcement of the Wool Products Labeling Act, of not less than \$172,410.

During this period great effort was made to relieve the lamb market situation by the removal of ration points. Although it did not appear that the efforts were too successful, the ration points were taken from both lamb and mutton in May, and it is felt material benefit was received. However, ration points were returned to higher-grade lamb in July.

This was protested vigorously. And it is still the feeling of the National's representatives that this forced the

SHEEPMEN'S CALENDAR

January 11-13: Montana Wool Growers' Convention, Butte.

January 11-13: American National Livestock Association Convention, Denver, Colorado.

January 13-21: National Western Stock Show, Denver, Colorado.

January 15-16: Washington Wool Growers' Convention, Yakima, Washington.

January 18-19: Oregon Wool Growers' Convention, Prineville, Oregon.

January 23-24: Utah Wool Growers' Convention, Salt Lake City, Utah.

January 29-30-31: 80th Annual Convention of the National Wool Growers Association, Ft. Worth, Texas.

February 6-7: New Mexico Wool Growers' Convention, Albuquerque.

growers to pay the cost of distribution of lambs, which was not justifiable or legal. However, a gain was made in that rationing has not been placed on mutton, and we feel it should not be returned.

Representatives in Washington have worked on all problems pertaining to the industry such as farm machinery, feed trucks, repair parts, ammunition, labor, and many others.

The National has been instrumental in advancing the research work on wool shrinkages now carried on by the Department of Agriculture. It has also supported appropriations for predatory animal control, and interested officials in further research on sheep parasites.

The work is continuous and constant vigilance is maintained on all and any problems, legislative and otherwise, that affect the industry.

In June your representatives, in cooperation with the American Wool Council, testified before the Senate Appropriations Committee in the effort to earmark \$21,700,000 for the purchase of domestic wool to be used in U.N.R.R.A. This was done. In all of these matters, it must be remembered that it was the support of the Senators and Congressmen of our western states that made the accomplishments possible.

In August the National conducted its 29th annual ram sale for the benefit of producers and breeders. Through good and bad years, this has been maintained in order that more growers could improve their flocks.

Much work was done to improve the prices for lamb. The results were largely intangible, but nevertheless were beneficial if only to the extent of determining the reasons why they were lower or higher.

Your headquarters office in Salt Lake City has been available for the use of all woolgrowers. It has kept the details of all of the activities and informed the growers through its official publication, The National Wool Grower, and other releases, of the problems, activities and outcome of all important matters pertaining to the industry.

One of the important activities of the Salt Lake office has been to prepare an organization program for the use of states, if desired; a program which is available to all state associations and one that may well be beneficial to those desiring assistance.

The last six weeks spent in Washington, D.C., by your Legislative Committee were primarily devoted to securing a continuation of the Wool Purchase Program. This has been announced and will be continued through June 30, 1946, due entirely to the efforts of your Legislative Committee and the support of Senators, Congressmen, and men in government agencies who understand the growers' problems.

The Chairman of your Legislative Committee is the one who is responsible for encouraging the change in the specifications for Army serge to permit the use of 60's wool. This will be of great benefit in assisting the movement of domestic wools of this grade, and has already improved the market situation.

A Washington office has been established in accordance with the direction given your Legislative Committee last August. This is and will be the headquarters of all sheepmen in Washington, and it is planned to give prompt and efficient service to all of the growers.

1945 Work

Plans are also being formulated to bring to the attention of Congress the importance of the domestic sheep in-

dustry, the cost of producing both wool and lambs, the need for a revised parity formula for the industry, the desire for import quotas to be placed on foreign wool, and other matters facing the industry,—but this is work for 1945 and subject to approval of the Executive Committee meeting in Fort Worth, Texas, January 28-31, 1945.

The work ahead looms much larger and important than even in 1944, but with your continued support and guidance, much can be accomplished for the benefit of the entire industry. This is no idle boast, and future actions will prove it.

J.M.J.

Wool Freight Rate Case

AT the present time (December 30) no action has been taken on the National's petition to reinstate the General Wool Freight Rate Investigation case.

The time permitted by the I.C.C. for the railroads to answer the petition was extended to December 18, 1944, and although a copy of the carriers' reply has not been received, it is understood that the railroads claim that even though freight charges on wool were abolished it wouldn't solve the growers' problem of the price differential between foreign and domestic wool; that wool growers are receiving 41.6 cents per pound for their wool or a 20-year high for ranch prices while freight rates are the same as when wool brought 9 cents in 1932.

The carriers stated that out of 32 farm products only cotton, dressed poultry and green sheep pelts pay less than wool. Our counsel and the counsel for the Department of Agriculture will answer the carriers' reply to the Commission.

A letter from Mr. Chas B. Bowling, chief of the Transportation and Services Division, U. S. Department of Agriculture, under date of December 26, 1944, states that in the Department's opinion the carriers have made misleading statements and that it is requesting permission from the I.C.C. to answer the carriers.

Our counsel is continuing the preparation of the case in anticipation that the I.C.C. will react favorably to the petitions submitted.

Mushroom Growth of Grazing Service

ON December 19, 1944, Senator Pat McCarran, Nevada, as chairman of the subcommittee of the Committee on Public Lands and Surveys, presented to the Senate a report on the administration and use of public lands.

At the outset the Senator said, "This report tells a story which would be amazing if it were not so typical. It is a story of the mushroom growth of a government agency."

He stated that the cost of administering the Taylor Grazing Act had quadrupled in ten fiscal years. Secretary Ickes, according to the report, repeatedly told Congressional committees that the cost of administering the act would not exceed \$150,000 per year with a personnel confined to 22 administrative officers.

Here's the history of the increased growth as given by the report:

1. In 1935 the first regular appropriation called for \$250,000 and 45 personnel instead of the \$150,000 and 22 personnel, alibiing with the statement that the cost of organization was expensive.
2. Over the 10 fiscal years, 1936 to 1945, the average appropriation has been nearly \$700,000 per year, or $4\frac{2}{3}$ times original estimate.
3. Growth of personnel has continued year by year from 45 in 1936 to 250 in 1944.
4. Secretary Ickes testified that the Grazing Service would not be a separate or new bureau in 1935, but on July 11, 1944, it was raised to the rank of an operating bureau.
5. Grazing Service has had large sums to spend in addition to salaries and expenses. The range improvement appropriation, or 25 per cent fund amounted to \$1,750,000 for the fiscal years 1937 to 1945. The soil and moisture project was another source of funds which amounted to \$3,000,000 for years 1941 to 1945. Emergency fire protection funds amounted to \$500,000 for years 1943 to 1945. The leasing of lands under the Pierce Act made available over \$150,000 for the years 1941 to 1945. About 17 per cent of the payments to states, known as the 50 per cent fund, was turned back to Grazing Service, amounting to more than \$500,000 for 1936 to 1945.

The result has been that the sum of these funds available for the ad-

ministration of public ranges, construction, purchase and improvements has grown from \$250,000 for 1936 to a maximum of nearly \$2,000,000 for 1942. For the fiscal year 1945, they totaled \$1,825,000 or 12 times the original estimated cost of administration.

In addition to the above funds, large sums have been allocated from the Civilian Conservation Corps, and for 8 fiscal years, 1936 to 1943, have totaled nearly \$18,000,000. The total of all various funds listed as Grazing Service appropriations for the 10 years is approximately \$37,000,000.

6. A definite limit of 80,000,000 acres was established by the Taylor Grazing Act as the total area to be administered by the Grazing Service. As soon as the act was passed, steps were taken to establish 50 grazing districts with tentative boundaries involving approximately 140,000,000 acres of public domain.

Proposed Grazing Fee Increases to be Studied by Senate Committee

THE Grazing Service's proposal to triple the grazing fees of the Taylor Grazing Districts, which caused such consternation among stockmen last month (N.W.G. 12-8-44) is receiving attention from the Senate Committee on Public Lands and Surveys, and a resolution unanimously adopted by them indicates that the fees will be held up until after they have had time to make a thorough study of the question. Senator McCarran, who, as chairman of the special subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Public Lands and Surveys investigating the use of the public domain, has shown in all instances a comprehensive understanding of the stockmen's position in relation to their use of the public lands, was directed by the Committee to place the following resolution in the Congressional Record:

Whereas, it has come to the attention of the Committee on Public Lands and Surveys that the Interior Department, acting by and through the Grazing Service under said department, is seriously considering, or is about to effect an increase in the fees charged for the grazing of livestock on the open public domain, administered under the Taylor Grazing Act by the Interior Department; and inasmuch as such proposal announced by the Grazing Service has created, and is now creating, wide-spread discontent and uncertainty in the livestock industry,

Congress in 1936 raised the limitation to 142,000,000 acres. The report states, "Since that date the record of the Department with respect to the acreage limitation has been one of unending and determined effort, first, to nullify, and then to circumvent the clear intent of Congress. An Executive Order was made the instrument through which virtually all of the public lands suitable for grazing, approximately 173,000,000 acres, were temporarily withdrawn from settlement, location, sale, or entry and reserved for classification. That withdrawal is still in effect in the 12 western range states."

7. "The Department now asserts that it has what it calls a 'mandate from Congress,' under the terms of the Taylor Grazing Act, to place the public domain under grazing administration regardless of the wishes of the livestock users of the land," according to the report.

J. M. J.

and in financial agencies connected with the livestock industry, and in the economics of agriculture in the open public-domain states: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Committee on Public Lands and Surveys of the Senate of the United States that no increase in grazing fees should be imposed until the Committee on Public Lands and Surveys has had an opportunity to make a full and complete study of the subject.

Feeders Appreciate Extension Wool Program

THE Colorado-Nebraska Lamb Feeders Association passed the following resolution at its annual meeting in Denver, Colorado, on December 18, 1944:

Whereas, Byron Wilson, Casey Jones, Russell Wilkins, and Norman Winder have rendered a valuable service to the association in receiving an extension of the wool-buying program of the C.C.C. to July 1, 1946,

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that we express our appreciation to them for the time and effort they have given so generously, and we suggest that they continue their efforts to secure an extension of the buying program until two years after the termination of the war, or until the stockpile of wool has been consumed.

The feeders made E. J. Wagner of Lamar, Colorado, president; Alonzo Petties, Brush, Colorado, vice president; W. D. Farr of Greeley, secretary, and Charles P. Warren of Fort Collins, treasurer.

Program: The 80th Annual Convention NATIONAL WOOLGROWERS ASSOCIATION

And The Fourth Annual Meeting

AMERICAN WOOL COUNCIL

Texas Hotel,
Fort Worth, Texas—January 29, 30, 31, 1945

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 1945

4:00 p.m.—Meeting, Board of Directors, American Wool Council, Alamo, Mezzanine Floor

7:30 p.m.—Meeting, Executive Committee, National Wool Growers Association, Centennial No. 1, Mezzanine Floor

MONDAY, JANUARY 29, 1945

10:00 a.m.—Music

Invocation: The Rev. L. D. Anderson
Address of Welcome: The Honorable Coke Stevenson, Governor of Texas
Response to Welcome: Sylvan J. Pauly, Vice President National Wool Growers Association
President's Address: G. N. Winder
Address: Mrs. W. A. Roberts, President, Women's Auxiliary to National Wool Growers Association
Secretary's Report: J. M. Jones
E. E. Marsh
Appointment of Committees
Other Announcements

2:00 p.m.—Committee Meetings

General Resolutions: Mac Hoke, Chairman—Vice-President, National Wool Growers Association
Room No. 3, Mezzanine Floor
Wool Marketing: R. C. Rich, Chairman—President, American Wool Council, Incorporated
Centennial No. 1, Mezzanine Floor
Lamb Marketing: Reynold Seaverson, Chairman—Vice-President, Wyoming Wool Growers Association
Cactus, 14th Floor
Public Lands & Grazing: T. C. Bacon, Chairman—Vice President, National Wool Growers Association
Centennial No. 2, Mezzanine Floor
Predatory Animals: (Chairman to be selected at meeting).
Room No. 4, Mezzanine Floor

6:30 p.m.—Dinner and Style Show:

Hosts for Dinner Are: Fort Worth Clearing House Association
Toastmaster, Ed Winton, President
Style Show is Sponsored by Botany Worsted Mills

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30, 1945

9:30 a.m.—Lamb Session

G. N. Winder, Chairman
Music

New Lamb Promotion Facts: R. C. Pollock, General Manager, National Livestock and Meat Board
Demonstration of Lamb Grading Under W.F.A. Standards: Fred Beard, Livestock and Meats Branch, War Food Administration
Report of Lamb Marketing Committee: Reynold Seaverson, Chairman—Vice President, Wyoming Wool Growers Association

Discussion Panel:

Harry Reed, Chief, Livestock and Meats Branch, War Food Administration
Homer Davison, Vice President, American Meat Institute
Garland Russell, Swift & Company
Walter A. Netsch, Armour & Company
G. B. Thorne, Vice President, Wilson & Company
Rilea W. Doe, Vice President, Safeway Stores
John Jirdon, Past President, Colorado-Nebraska Lamb Feeders Association
T. J. Kirby, National Livestock and Meat Board Representative, National Livestock Exchange
John A. Reed, President, Wyoming Wool Growers Association
James L. Sawyer, President, California Wool Growers Association
M. A. Smith, Utah-Colorado Lamb Producer
J. S. Hofmann, President, Colorado Wool Growers Association
Don Clyde, President, Utah Wool Growers, Inc.

Action on Committee Report

Report of General Resolutions Committee: Mac Hoke, Chairman
Report of Predatory Animals Committee

1:00 p.m.—Wool Session

H. J. Devereaux, Chairman

Address: Major General C. L. Corbin
Address: The Honorable Joseph C. O'Mahoney, Senior U.S. Senator, Wyoming
Report of Wool Marketing Committee: R. C. Rich, Chairman

Discussion Panel:

J. B. Wilson, Chairman, Legislative Committee
William Darden, Procedure Office, General Crops Division, Commodity Credit Corporation
Durham Jones, Chief Wool Appraiser, Office of Food Distribution, War Food Administration
Alexander Johnston, Office of Distribution, War Food Administration
Curt E. Forstmann, President, Forstmann Woolen Co.

Harold T. Lindsay, President, National Wool Trade Association

Harry A. Tilton, President, Boston Wool Trade Association

Fred T. Earwood, Vice President, National Wool Growers Association

Sylvan J. Pauly, Vice President, National Wool Growers Association

Action on Committee Report

Report of Grazing Committee: T. C. Bacon, Chairman

Report of Nominating Committee

Election of Officers

7:00 p.m.—Final Meeting, Executive Committee, National Wool Growers Association

9:00 p.m.—Dance and Floor Show

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1945

8:00 a.m.—Breakfast, Executive Committee, National Wool Growers Association, and Officers and Directors, Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association

9:30 a.m.—The Future of Wool

R. C. Rich, Chairman

Music

Address: J. F. Wilson, University of California

"Cooperation": Colonel Charles F. H. Johnson, President, Botany Worsted Mills

Report of American Wool Council: F. E. Ackerman, Executive Director

Discussion Panel:

Major General C. L. Corbin, Quartermaster Corps, Services of Supply, War Department

Colonel Charles F. H. Johnson, President, Botany Worsted Mills

Curt E. Forstmann, President, Forstmann Woolen Co. Ames Stevens, Vice President, National Association of Wool Manufacturers

Wool Trade Representatives

Packer Representatives

1:00 p.m.—Annual Meeting of American Wool Council

2:00 p.m.—Meeting of Board of Directors, American Wool Council

THE SIXTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

of the

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

to the

NATIONAL WOOL GROWERS ASSOCIATION

TEXAS HOTEL—FORT WORTH, TEXAS

January 29, 30, 31, 1945

CONVENTION PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Mrs. Marsh Lea, Chairman, Fort Stockton, Texas

Mrs. Emory C. Smith, Salt Lake City, Utah

PROGRAM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 1945

6:30 p.m.—Executive Dinner, Texas Hotel

MONDAY, JANUARY 29, 1945

9:00 a.m.—Registration

10:00 a.m.—Joint Meeting with National Wool Growers Association

1:30 p.m.—Opening Meeting Alamo Room, Texas Hotel

President, Mrs. W. A. Roberts, presiding

First Vice President, Mrs. John B. Allies, assisting
National Anthem, Mrs. Jesse Brown, Fort Worth, leading

Prayer, Mrs. J. T. Baker, Fort Stockton, Texas

Greetings of Welcome, Mrs. Sayers Farmer, Junction, Texas

Response

Presentation of Convention Program, Mrs. Marsh Lea, Fort Stockton, Texas

Introduction of Distinguished Guests

Reading of Minutes

Reports of National Officers

Reports of Committees

Reports of State Delegates

6:30 p.m.—Dinner and Style Show, Texas Hotel, sponsored by Botany Worsted Mills, New York City

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30, 1945

9:30 a.m.—Business session, Alamo Room, Texas Hotel

President, Mrs. W. A. Roberts, presiding

Second Vice President, Mrs. Guy Nations, assisting

"Using More Wool in the Postwar Period"—by J. A.

Gray, A. & M. College, College Station, Texas

Unfinished business

Report of Election and Installation of Officers

12:30 p.m.—Women's Luncheon, Blackstone Hotel

Music

"War Food Program of Points on Lamb"—by Moroni A. Smith, of Salt Lake City, Utah

"Educational Work"—by Mrs. Gertrude Hogan, Botany Worsted Mills, New York City

10:00 p.m.—Dance and Floor Show, Texas Hotel

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1945

8:00 a.m.—Breakfast, Officers of National Wool Growers and Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Auxiliary, Texas Hotel

9:30 a.m.—Joint Meeting with National Wool Growers and American Wool Council

1:30 p.m.—Executive Committee Meeting

Texas Meets

THE 29th Annual Convention of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association was held in the Cactus Hotel, San Angelo, on December 4 and 5, with over 400 sheep and goat raisers in attendance.

President Marsh Lea, Fort Stockton, presided at the opening of the session. He and Secretary Askew reported on the activities and accomplishments of the Association during the past year.

Grover B. Hill, first assistant administrator of the War Food Administration, highlighted the meeting with his remarks concerning the future of the sheep and goat industry and the announcement that the wool purchase program for 1945 will be carried on substantially the same basis as in 1944, providing Congress makes the necessary appropriation. The knowledge of Mr. Hill's attitude toward the purchase program, which has since been announced, gave much relief to the Texas growers.

Walter A. Netsch, member of the War Meat Board and head of the lamb department of Armour and Company, stressed the need for improved quality and finish for Texas lambs. He also pointed out the increasing importance lamb was playing in the total income of the sheepman.

The writer discussed the latest developments in Washington, D.C., and advisability of establishing a quota system for the importation of foreign wool.

College Work

W. L. Stangel, head of the Animal Husbandry Department, Texas Tech., discussed the work of the college, particularly the various lamb feeding experiments being carried on at the present time.

Gibb Gilchrist, president of A. & M. College, College Station, Texas, addressed the meeting and invited increased use of college facilities by the sheep and goat producers.

Elections

Ray W. Willoughby, San Angelo, was elected president of the Texas Association for the coming year; Steve Stumberg, Sanderson, first vice president,

and Bryan Hunt, Sonora, second vice president. Vestel Askew was re-appointed secretary-treasurer by the executive committee and Miss Metha Thompson, assistant.

The Ladies Auxiliary elected Mrs. J. T. Johnston of Water Valley, president; Mrs. Worth Evans of Marfa, first vice president; and Mrs. Jimmy Maddox of Blackwell, second vice president. Mrs. L. J. Wardlaw of Fort Worth was endorsed as Texas' candidate for president of the National Auxiliary.

Resolutions

Intense interest was shown by all of the growers at the business sessions. Problems were thoroughly discussed and plans made to guide the association affairs in the months to come.

Resolutions were unanimously approved that:

Recommended continuation of C.C.C. wool purchase program for 1945 be announced immediately.

Favored all wools presently owned by government be handled by one agency, Department of Agriculture, Commodity Credit Corporation.

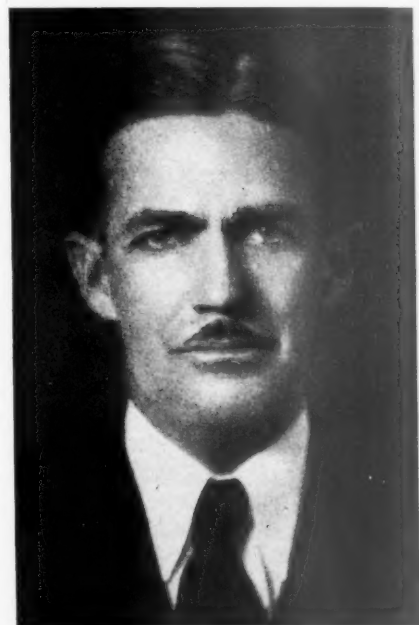
Urged current use of domestic wools.

Opposed sale in this country of foreign

wools held in United States unless domestic wool is unavailable.

Recommended a quota system on wool and wool product imports, based on products unavailable in this country; opposed placing wool imports in bond above annual quota; urged support of Texas Senators and Representatives.

Endorsed the work of the American Wool



Ray W. Willoughby, above, President, and Vestel Askew, below, Secretary, Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association.



Steve Stumberg, First Vice President of the Texas Association.



Council in its promotion of wool and mohair.

Commended the Chief Wool Appraiser and regional appraisers for their prompt and efficient work on the 1944 Texas clip.

Thanked the Texas warehouses for their support and cooperation in the collection of dues and urged further efforts to build up association.

Recommended that Congress use all its power in maintaining protective tariff on wool and other products which will maintain these industries on a sound basis.

Requested Congress to change and adjust the base parity price for wool in order to properly reflect the value of the product on present-day basis.

Requested Foreign Economic Administration to withhold sale of foreign mohair until domestic clip is consumed and that sales not be made at prices lower than comparable domestic mohair.

Regarded ceiling prices placed on goat meat, or chevron, by O.P.A. discriminatory and unnecessary, and asked O.P.A. to remove all restrictions on goat meat and its products.

Asked that mutton continue to be unrationed.

Requested discontinuance of lamb rationing when supply meets the demand and on certain grades when there is an over-supply in any particular section.

Recommended an upward adjustment in ceiling prices on lamb and mutton to permit maintenance of production.

Expressed appreciation to the National Livestock and Meat Board for the efforts in behalf of lamb and mutton and requested continued support.

Requested legislative action in regulating sale of livestock remedies, providing that guarantee of component parts of each remedy be registered with designated state agency.

Reaffirmed support of general wool freight rate investigation.

Commended Mr. H. M. Phillips on the publication of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raiser.

Commended the Fish and Wildlife Service for its cooperation with the Texas Livestock Sanitary Commission in the eradication of predators, urged increased federal appropriations to more adequately meet the needs.

Pledged continued further full cooperation in all phases of the war effort.

Commended the effective work of the National Livestock Tax Committee and pledged continued support.

Opposed all non-essential expenditures and urged Federal Government to return to the policy of economy by abandoning the disastrous theory that the Federal Government can spend without restraint or danger.

J.M.J.

Wanted! Copy National Wool Grower For November, 1937

The College of Agriculture of the University of Wisconsin needs a copy of the National Wool Grower for November, 1937 (Vol. 27, No. 11) to complete its files for binding. If you have a copy—and no longer need it—won't you please send it to C. S. Hean, Librarian, College of Agriculture, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin?

Bulbous Bluegrass

Good for Seeding Early Spring Sheep Ranges of the Intermountain Region¹

By A. C. Hull, Jr.

Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station,
U.S. Forest Service, Ogden, Utah

THE sheep and goats of the nomads living in some of the cold, dry deserts and hills of Turkestan and other parts of Asia depend upon bulbous bluegrass (*Poa bulbosa*) for much of their



Group of bulbous blue grass plants in a hayfield at North Ogden.

spring and winter grazing. This same bluegrass was brought to the United States in 1906 from Europe where it had been previously introduced, and has since become important for fall, winter, and early spring grazing in parts of the Pacific Northwest and in southwestern Idaho where the winters are often open and rainy.

This grass grows best in areas with a long spring growing season such as in the cheatgrass, sagebrush, and lower timber lands of southwestern Idaho. Here, and on the gravelly foothills near Pocatello, Ogden, and Salt Lake City, it has made its way into cheatgrass stands along roadways, and on some dry foothill ranges. In Utah and Nevada except at higher elevations, it dries so

early that its yield is low, and it is grazed only during a short period in spring.

Bulbous bluegrass is valuable in supplying tender early spring feed, either as an understory in a mixture with deep-rooted species or alone on ranges where reseeding to higher yielding grasses is not possible, or is at least not economically feasible because of topography, rocks, poor soil, or in very dry places. Seed is readily available and good stands are easily obtained. In supplanting cheatgrass it greatly reduces the fire hazard and furnishes feed which varies less in volume between good and poor years than does cheatgrass. Its greatest drawback is that the small, shallow-rooted plants produce only a small volume of feed which dries early. The growth periods of bulbous bluegrass and cheatgrass are approximately the same, although bulbous bluegrass usually starts earlier in the spring.

Bulbous bluegrass is the one grass that may be broadcast without seedbed preparation or seed covering with reasonable assurance of good stands. Shallow drilling, however, generally accomplishes better seed distribution than broadcasting. On a prepared seedbed it produces good stands in 1 to 2 years as compared with 2 to 5 years needed for a good stand when it is seeded without being covered in dense stands of cheatgrass. Early fall is the best season for seeding.

Bulbous bluegrass is unique in that bulbils or miniature plants grow on the seedheads instead of seeds. Bulbils stored where cool and dry should germinate well for 5 or more years. As little as 4 pounds per acre forms a fair stand which will thicken, while from 7 to 15 pounds per acre helps assure a thick stand from the beginning. The grass has underground bulbs (hence its name), which multiply rapidly and form new plants when dislodged and scattered. Ground squirrels gather these avidly and may destroy small plants. Grazing seems to favor spread by both bulbs and bulbils.

The palatability is excellent when the leaves are green and, in nutritive value, it is comparable to Kentucky bluegrass, crested wheatgrass, or smooth brome or other grasses in the same stage of development.

¹As used in this paper the Intermountain Region refers to Utah, Nevada, Idaho south of the main Salmon River, and southwestern Wyoming.

Constant-Price Method of Inventorying Livestock Recognized by Washington

By Stephen H. Hart,
Attorney for National Livestock
Tax Committee, Denver, Colorado

GOOD news, taxwise, comes this Christmas for livestock producers. The Secretary of the Treasury on December 15 approved T.D. 5423 amending the Income Tax Regulations of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue so as to recognize the "unit-livestock-price method," of inventorying livestock. Mimeograph R.A. No. 1399 interprets the new regulation. This brings to a successful conclusion the first job undertaken by the National Livestock Tax Committee in its efforts to ease the tax burden on the livestock industry and simplify and make practical the tax laws, regulations, and interpretations applying to the livestock industry.

Many producers, raisers of cattle, sheep, and horses, have for years inventoried their animals on what they called the "straight-line" or "constant-cost" method. Operators have used this method on their tax returns since the first income tax law in 1913, and revenue agents throughout the western country, recognizing that such inventory method properly reflects income, have accepted returns filed on this basis. Washington, however, never recognized it officially, and from time to time threatened operators with increased taxes and deficiencies based on an increase in inventory values.

In 1943 the matter came to a head, with revenue agents in Texas asserting deficiencies against operators there by raising their inventories to market values, making them take into income and pay a tax on inflated prices that might never be realized. The threat of such action in Texas spread to other districts. At present rates millions of dollars in taxes were involved. The industry countered with the organization of the National Livestock Tax Committee in Kansas City on September 1, 1943, following a meeting in Amarillo on August 11, 1943. The steering group of this Committee consisted of:

Frank S. Boice, Sonita, Arizona—Chairman.

Earl Monahan, Hyannis, Nebraska.

Albert K. Mitchell, Bell Ranch, New Mexico.

Claude K. McCan, Victoria, Texas (since replaced by C. E. Weymouth, Amarillo, Texas).

Roland J. Hawes, Boise, Idaho.

R. K. Kinzer, Kansas City, Missouri.

Norman Winder, Craig, Colorado.

John A. Reed, Kemmerer, Wyoming and H. K. Fawcett, Del Rio, Texas.

The Committee employed four accountants: C. A. Freeze, San Angelo, Texas; S. W. Gaddie, Salt Lake City, Utah; W. K. Smith, Dallas, Texas—(since deceased), and J. Bryan Stephenson, Albuquerque, New Mexico; also an attorney, Stephen H. Hart, Denver, Colorado.

A brief was written and a public hearing held in Washington, followed by numerous conferences and meetings in Washington, Denver, and Amarillo. Senators and Congressmen from the western states urged the position of the industry on the Bureau. The following were particularly helpful: Senators—Hugh A. Butler (Nebraska), Edwin C. Johnson (Colorado), Eugene D. Milliken (Colorado), Edward V. Robertson (Wyoming), John Thomas (Idaho); Representatives—Frank Carlson (Kansas), Frank A. Barrett (Wyoming), O. Clark Fisher (Texas), Richard F. Harless (Arizona), Richard M. Kleberg (Texas), Robert F. Rockwell (Colorado), Robert E. Thomason, and Milton H. West (Texas).

Perhaps the most telling remark was that of Senator Johnson of Colorado at the public hearing in Washington, when he stated that he hoped the Commissioner would recognize the industry's position by an amendment of the Commissioner's Regulations; otherwise Congress would amend the law, which was too long already.

We were particularly fortunate in having the case assigned to Mr. F. T. Eddingfield, one of the top income tax experts in the Bureau, who was willing to study the problems of the livestock operator sympathetically and work out a solution which would be practical for the industry and protect the revenues of the government, regardless of whether it fitted the technical thinking of the academic inventory experts of the gov-

ernment. The office of the Internal Revenue Agent in Charge in Denver was also most cooperative.

The regulation just issued is the culmination of all these efforts. It recognizes what it now calls "unit-livestock-price method" of valuing inventory. This is in addition to the options already given a livestock producer: to file returns on the "cash-receipts-and-disbursements" basis in which no inventory is used, to value inventories according to "cost," "cost or market whichever is lower," or the "farm-market" method, and the method rarely used of capitalizing livestock and deducting annual depreciation. These alternatives now permitted are not changed.

The "unit-livestock-price method" provides for valuing different classes of animals at constant-unit prices for each animal in a class. Livestock producers who have in the past valued their inventories at constant costs, whose returns have been examined and accepted by the Commissioner, will be considered on the unit-livestock-price method, and will be permitted to continue to use the prices and classifications already established. Their inventory prices and classifications for past years on returns already filed will not be disturbed. Operators hereafter starting business or electing to change to the unit livestock price method in the future must adopt reasonable classifications and prices reflecting reasonable estimates of the normal cost of raising the animals. The operator's own estimate of cost will be given great weight.

Once established, the unit prices and classifications selected by the taxpayer must be consistently applied to all subsequent years. No changes will be permitted without the approval of the Commissioner.

A taxpayer who uses the unit-livestock-price method must apply it to all livestock except special breeding animals which may, at the taxpayer's option, be capitalized and subjected to depreciation. The mimeograph provides a method for changing the values of any animals previously valued at farm-market to unit prices in the case of an operator who has heretofore valued some animals at constant costs and some at farm-market.

Purchased animals must be included in inventory at the purchase price, and if they were not mature at the time of

purchase, their values must be increased at the end of each year in accordance with the established unit prices adopted. Such purchased animals will be eliminated from closing inventory, as sold if they can be identified, otherwise the first-in-first-out method will be applied.

If an operator using the "farm-price method" desires to adopt the "unit-livestock-price method," he must secure permission from the Commissioner and adopt prices and classifications that reasonably reflect the cost of raising the animals. The mimeograph outlines a method of making the change gradually over a period of time without distorting income. An operator who has used the "cost," or "cost-or-market" basis of inventorying may change to the "unit-livestock price" method without permission, but he, too, must select reasonable classifications and prices. A livestock operator who has, for years prior to January 1, 1944, adopted the "straight-line" or "constant-cost" method of valuing livestock will be con-

sidered having elected the "unit-livestock-price method," and no changes will be made in the classifications or unit prices used by him during prior years.

The regulation results from an attempt to work out the industry's tax problems amicably with the Bureau of Internal Revenue. The Committee hopes that it will prove workable, simple, and consistent with industry practice. Essentially, the regulation recognizes what has always been done in the past and frees operators who have consistently used constant prices and classifications from the threat of tax deficiencies.

Thus concludes the first job undertaken by the National Livestock Tax Committee. Its second job, the application of the capital gains provisions of the income tax law to the sale of breeding stock, is still under way. Numerous conferences have been held with the Bureau, and a ruling expressing a reasonable solution is momentarily awaited.

Jackson Hole Bill Vetoed

H.R. 2241, to abolish the Jackson Hole Monument as created by Presidential Proclamation of March 15, 1943 passed both Houses of Congress during the last days of its 78th session but was killed by the pocket veto of the President, December 29.

Introduced by Congressman Barrett of Wyoming soon after livestock men of the entire country, as well as those specifically affected, were thrown into a state of alarm by the appearance, without warning, in the Federal Register of March 18, 1943, of the executive order setting aside the 222,000 acreage east of the Teton Mountains as the Jackson Hole Monument, under section 2 of the Antiquities Act of 1906, H.R. 2241 was brought up at frequent intervals and passed over until the astute management of Congressman Barrett secured its passage in the House by vote of 178 to 107 on December 11. With the Senate calendar crowded, little hope was held that that body would act upon the measure before adjournment. However, the Senate Committee on Public Lands and Surveys reported the bill without amendment and Senator O'Mahoney of Wyoming, in the closing hours of the Senate on Decem-

ber 19, announced that he and Senator Robertson, the junior Senator from Wyoming, had canvassed the members of the Senate, and asked for and obtained unanimous consent of the Senate to the immediate consideration of the bill and "it was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time and passed."

While it was hoped the President would sign the measure, his veto was not surprising. Had the measure passed Congress in time for action after the veto, it might, however, have been overridden.

But the Jackson Hole matter will not lie dormant long after the opening of the 79th session of Congress. Undoubtedly bills will be introduced by the Wyoming members designed to cover the situation. It is quite certain also that a bill similar to Senator O'Mahoney's S. 1046 calling for the repeal of section two of the Antiquities Act of 1906 will be introduced for the purpose of relieving the President of his power to designate an area—in this instance, an area largely composed of grazing lands and with little historical interest—as a national monument. It must be remembered, too, that Senator

O'Mahoney has blocked every move of the Interior Department to obtain an appropriation to administer the Jackson Hole Monument; also that the suit brought by the State of Wyoming to test the validity of the President's action in setting up the Jackson Hole Monument is pending in the courts.

In the statement accompanying his veto, the President maintained, according to an A.P. dispatch out of Washington on December 29, that he had the power to establish the Jackson Hole Monument and suggested that Congress enact new legislation that would permit a returning of federal funds from the national parks and national monuments services to the states to reimburse them for loss in taxes on lands acquired by the Federal Government. He also favored legislation recommended by Secretary Ickes to provide in the case of the Jackson Hole Monument:

1. Continuance of all federal permits for use of lands within the reserve during the lifetime of the present holders and members of their immediate families.
2. Recognition of existing grazing and stock driveway privileges permitting cattlemen, among other things, to drive their stock across monument lands between their ranches and summer ranges.

The above action, if taken, however, will not counteract the general resentment and ill-feeling caused by the means employed to bring this Wyoming acreage under the control of the Department of the Interior. True, as opponents of H.R. 2241 and the President himself have said, this is not the first instance that a national monument has been set up under the Antiquities Act, but never has there been such action under circumstances as exist in the present case.

Twenty-five years ago an unsuccessful attempt was made to include the Grand Teton Mountains in the Yellowstone National Park; in 1926-27 a Presidential commission held hearings in Wyoming on a proposal to set up a separate park to be known as Grand Teton National Park. That commission recommended that a park be created to include only the Grand Teton Mountains and that the 221,000 acres to the east of those mountains be left out of the park area. Congress followed this recommendation in setting up the Teton National Park without the Jackson Hole area. In 1938 Secretary Ickes again asked Congress to enlarge the boundaries of the park to take in the Jackson Hole area, and again hearings were held in Wyoming and again the

(Continued on page 23)

South Dakota Holds 7th Annual Conference

SNOWY roads and labor shortages had some effect upon the attendance at the 7th annual conference of the Western South Dakota Sheep Growers Association at Belle Fourche, December 8 and 9. However, a good representation of growers was present. Reverend James P. Walsh delivered the

rect present range conditions and improve forage value. Mr. Haley also exhibited a very comprehensive display of native grasses.

Dr. A. F. Vass of the University of Wyoming presented a sound worthwhile study of production costs of the industry. He spoke of the absolute ne-

told of the work which the University has done to improve range sheep.

Don W. Breese of John Morrell and Company spoke on work that must be done to increase the consumption of lamb and the present lack of knowledge on proper methods of cooking lamb. Mr. Breese also spoke of black market ac-



John H. Widdoss, President



Ward Van Horn, Vice President



H. J. Devereaux, Secretary

OFFICERS OF THE WESTERN SOUTH DAKOTA SHEEP GROWERS ASSOCIATION

invocation and K. L. Arthur, president Belle Fourche Commercial Club, extended the address of welcome to the growers.

Harry J. Devereaux, association secretary, gave a very favorable report on activities of the past year. He stated that association finances were in good shape and also spoke of the work of their association in supporting various efforts of the National Wool Growers Association to further the use of domestic wool.

Floyd A. Haley, extension agent of Fall River County, presented an interesting story on early prairie grasses of the great plains region. He claimed that immediate action is necessary to cor-

rect present range conditions and improve forage value. Mr. Haley also exhibited a very comprehensive display of native grasses.

Dr. A. F. Vass of the University of Wyoming presented a sound worthwhile study of production costs of the industry. He spoke of the absolute ne-

cessity of keeping farm prices related to wages. Dr. Vass discussed the inequality of the 1909-1914 parity base period on wool and presented a chart using the parity period of 1901-1925 which he feels is a fairer and more logical base period.

Mr. I. B. Johnson of the South Dakota State College opened the afternoon session with a discussion of protein content of South Dakota grasses and lamb losses in various flocks. He also spoke of the small amount which agricultural interests spend for experimental work and the value of this activity.

Anton F. Fellhauer of the University of Wyoming presented some colored slides on culling experiment results and activities, which he says are still flourishing.

E. E. Marsh of the National Wool Growers Association presented charts and led discussion on the needs and work of the wool grower organizations, which was followed by a presentation of the new financing plan adopted at the National Executive Committee meeting in August. Growers were unanimous in their support of this program and most of those present signed pledge cards. Under this program growers authorize and direct their wool dealers to deduct a nominal assessment on each pound of wool which they market. This deduction goes to their state association to cover all organiza-

tion and promotion work of the state and national associations and the American Wool Council. This plan takes the place of present assessment plans and is felt to be the most logical and feasible program yet devised.

It is the feeling of the South Dakota growers that more support in the beneficial work of their associations is necessary for the prosperity of the industry. This was especially brought home to them when facts were presented showing the small amount which wool growers spend to preserve, protect and promote their industry, as compared with other producers.

The Saturday morning session opened with the discussion of predatory animal control led by Henry Jacobsen, U. S. Commissioner, and secretary of the Castle Rock Extermination Association. Methods of killing coyotes, bounties and legislative matters were discussed. Adolph Hamm, Mitchell, South Dakota, gave an interesting talk requesting that the association go on record in support of the predatory control program. N. E. McEachron, assistant director, South Dakota Department of Game and Fish, spoke on the work of the department and told of the large number of licenses issued in South Dakota during the past season.

J. M. Jones, secretary of the National Wool Growers Association spoke on various matters pertaining to the industry, including the wool stockpile, lack of importation restrictions, and the proposed quota system on imports which would tend to bring foreign wool prices more into line with those for domestic wools. Mr. Jones' talk also covered the importations of lambs from Canada this year, the wool freight rate case, and the National Convention at Fort Worth in January.

The Saturday afternoon session opened with a talk on animal nutrition on the range given by Dr. H. C. Waite, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He stressed the need of a knowledge by growers of the protein, vitamin and mineral content of various forage and grains to produce better animals.

Dr. Benjamin Schwartz, Chief, Zoological Division, Bureau of Animal Industry, spoke on parasite control and led in a panel discussion on that subject in which the following took part: Dr. F. N. Carlsen, Belle Fourche; Dr. R. M. Buck, Belle Fourche; Dr. R. S. Robinson, State Livestock Sanitary Board; Dr. Neil Plank, B.A.I., Pierre; and Dr.

Hadleigh Marsh, Bozeman, Montana. This discussion provoked much interest because parasite control is one of the chief problems of South Dakota.

All of the association officers were re-elected: John H. Widdoss, St. Onge, president; Ward Van Horn, Buffalo, vice president; and Harry J. Devereaux, Rapid City, secretary-treasurer. The convention closed with a banquet at the Belle Fourche high school featuring musical numbers, community singing

GRASS

Grass is the forgiveness of nature—her constant benediction. Fields trampled with battle, saturated with blood, torn with the ruts of cannon, grow green again with grass, and carnage is forgotten. Streets abandoned by traffic become grass-grown like rural lanes, and are obliterated. Forests decay, harvests perish, flowers vanish, but grass is immortal.

Beleaguered by the sullen hosts of winter, it withdraws into the impregnable fortress of its subterranean vitality, and emerges upon the first solicitation of spring. Sown by the winds, by wandering birds, propagated by the subtle horticulture of the elements which are its ministers and servants, it softens the rude outline of the world. Its tenacious fibers hold the earth in its place, and prevent its soluble components from washing into the wasting sea. It invades the solitude of deserts, climbs the inaccessible slopes and forbidding pinnacles of mountains, modifies climates, and determines the history, character and destiny of nations.

Unobtrusive and patient, it has immortal vigor and aggression. Banished from the thoroughfare and the field, it bides its time to return and when vigilance is relaxed, or the dynasty has perished, it silently resumes the throne from which it has been expelled, but which it never abdicates. It bears no blazonry or bloom to charm the senses with fragrance or splendor, but its homely hue is more enchanting than the lily or the rose. It yields no fruit in earth or air, and yet should its harvest fail for a single year, famine would depopulate the world.—John James Ingalls.

and an address by R. W. Hitchcock, publisher, Rapid City Daily Journal.

Resolutions

Resolutions adopted included:

Commendation of the work of the National Livestock Tax Committee, pledging support of the association in their work and urging that income tax levies be based on an average return of at least three years.

Approval of a national sales tax law.

Approval of work of the American Wool Council and recommendation that the 10 cents per bag deduction be continued.

Approval of continuance of the wool purchase program for the duration of the war and for two years thereafter or until such time as wool stocks in the United States are reduced to a tonnage comparable to supplies at the beginning of the war.

Endorsement of recommendations discussed by growers, manufacturers and dealers at the Casper, Wyoming, convention, November 1 and 2. (NWG November 1944, page 5.)

Recommendation that Hill Plan be adopted or that a similar plan be enacted for integration with the government purchase program.

Recommendation that ceiling prices on wool and lambs be adjusted to meet added costs of production as was intended by Congress in passing the amendment to the Price Control Act.

Opposition to further extension of the Reciprocal Trade Agreement Act, and also to any modification of the Livestock Sanitary Embargo.

Recommendation that our protective tariff laws be maintained because they are essential to preserve American markets for American products.

Opposition to rationing of lamb and mutton under ceiling and point values because the program has failed in its purpose of proper distribution.

Opposition to support price being paid packers and rollback prices.

Recommendation that livestock prices be comparable to feed prices, labor and other contributing costs and that consideration be given to recent advances in feed and labor costs with no advance in meat ceiling prices.

Recommendation that wartime meat management plan as proposed by the Livestock and Meat Council be adopted.

Recommendation favoring continued collection of 75 cents per car on sheep and lambs marketed at central public markets for use in the effective work of the National Livestock and Meat Board.

Recommendation that a new formula parity on wool and lambs be adopted.

E.E.M.

TEXAS COMMITTEE ON CONVENTION ARRANGEMENTS

William Pier, Chairman	J. H. Hall
A. A. Lund	W. L. Joyce
A. K. Mackey	Charles A. Stewart
Otis Smith	Marsh Lea
Ray Willoughby	Vestel Askew

Are You Meeting the Challenge?

By Harold J. Burback,
U. S. Grazing Service

Livestockmen of the West will read with interest Mr. Burback's treatment of the proposal to again reward our returning soldiers with tracts of land. Speaking from personal experience as a veteran of World War I, he asks that the boys be protected this time from disillusionment by being given a true picture of what such a bonus means. Mr. Burback is assistant regional grazier for Region 2 of the Grazing Service, with headquarters in Salt Lake City.

—The Editors

A most timely article by Harold Titus in the November 18th issue of the *Saturday Evening Post* entitled "Please! No More Crackpot Land Schemes For Veterans" should be read by everyone, including our western range stockmen. As a disabled veteran of World War I, I can vouch for the tremendous desire of fighting men to secure a little piece of land when they get back home. As I was transferred from one French hospital to another—often delirious for days at a time—I dreamed constantly of a homestead "somewhere in the West" where I could hew a home in the wilderness and start life over again—away from the disillusionment of my old life. Perhaps I was merely following the paths of my forebears, for I was a city man with only an occasional visit to a Wisconsin farm as a background for anything agricultural.

Months later, upon arriving back home in Illinois, I found my old life almost unbearable. I simply couldn't content myself with surroundings hitherto considered quite congenial, and, without any acceptable advice given or even available, I wound up in northwestern Colorado bent upon a fulfillment of my hospital dreams to "take to" the land. With no helping hand from a sympathetic government or badly needed advice from anyone, I joined the throngs of returning veterans who took up a stockraising homestead of 640 acres. The heartaches, disillusionments, and financial disaster that became the lot of so many soldiers who made the great experiment is of common knowledge to all of you. The West still shows the scars and sores of a ca-

tastrophe that not only wrecked many a young veteran fresh from the battlefields of France, but almost ruined the range livestock industry. Partially demolished tar paper shacks, acres of excellent blue stem pasture destroyed through plowing and now sustaining a stand of Russian Thistle, miles of tangled barbed wire and an occasional old rusty binder silhouetted on the sky line are mute evidence of an unsuccessful campaign.

Since the earliest days of American history returned soldiers have been offered tracts and parcels of land as a bonus or reward for military service. Records indicate keen competition during the American Revolution between the King's Army and our Continental Army in offering land tracts as a part of military pay. The British offers were made especially attractive to lure recruits from the citizenry of the American Colonies to fight against the struggling believers of Freedom under the banner of George Washington. The Father of our Country, in turn, countered with land gifts based upon military rank. Perhaps a quarter section for a mere Private with a corresponding increase in acreage to a Captain, more to a Major, and a larger parcel for a Colonel. Thus, after the end of that memorial struggle many a Continental exercised his homestead privileges in the virgin forests of western New York State, Kentucky, West Virginia, and even Ohio. The thrill of actually carving a home out of the wilderness served a multifold purpose. It met the seemingly inevitable aftermath of every war, unemployment with its threat of anarchy or, at least, the minor forms of political and social unrest. Thus did Uncle Sam with millions of acres of rich, virgin, and potentially productive land "kill two birds with one stone" after every war—and we had lots of them. Ever westward went the homeseeking migration after each war until the broad expanse of the Pacific on the west, the Canadian Border on the north, and old Mexico on the south were reached. So finally, even before World War I, Uncle Sam had almost come "to the end of his rope" as a purveyor or

donor of good agricultural land—lands upon which an ambitious and strong young man could make a decent living.

Therefore, Uncle Sam decided to make up in quantity what he lacked in quality. The 320-acre Enlarged Homestead or Dry-Farm Entry was followed by the 640-acre Stock-Raising Homestead Entry, and it was the latter that attracted so many returned veterans of the last war. Land suitable primarily for grazing, particularly in the northern range states, only furnished part of a year-round livestock set-up, and to be successful not only was it necessary to purchase cattle or sheep with which to stock the land but more productive crop producing land must be secured to complete the year-long cycle. Did the government counsel and advise the thousands whose only knowledge of western ranching was gleaned from reading Zane Grey's "Riders of The Purple Sage"? Did any group of citizens who took enough interest in the welfare of their returning heroes to organize sources of advice, volunteer their services? No indeed! The stockmen who awoke one spring or summer morning to find his range invaded by a homesteader only resented the intrusion and then abided his time to buy out the disillusioned, bankrupt ex-soldier when he was finally forced to the inevitable conclusion that the West "ain't what it used to be." Of course, there were exceptions who did make a go of it, but they were the exception to the rule.

And so we are again at the cross roads of a post-war era—again facing the repetition of the 1919 returning veteran with a "yen" for a little gray home in the West. Only now we have the memories of the fiasco of the early Twenties still fresh in our minds. The government has done a bang-up job with the G. I. Bill of Rights, but the government can't do it alone. What the people of the Middle West are planning to do for the returned veteran who wants to farm must be done far more intensively in the range states of the West. Stockmen owe this much to the boys who are giving their all; to see that they go into this vast gamble of stock-raising with their eyes open, to see that

they get a square deal and that they are not enticed by a lot of crack-pot land disposal schemes to make the mistakes of the last war. Of course, we want to revitalize the industry by infusing new blood in the ranks, but only we are to blame if we are derelict in our duty to our sons and our returning heroes.

Nor must we deceive ourselves that our own sons returning from service in all parts of the globe will be satisfied in every case with the life they abandoned when they donned the uniform of the United States. Lads who for years—perhaps their entire lifetime—were perfectly contented with life on the home place and whose whole world was almost confined to the “cow pasture” will come home glibly talking about their experiences in New York, Frisco, Panama, London, Paris, Guadalcanal, Manila, Honolulu. They will have new ideas, new philosophies, and new ambitions. True, now they write home stating that all they are fighting for is to get this fight over so they can return to the old farmstead and settle down. Many of them will do this very thing for a few weeks or even months, but I'll gamble that the majority of them will have ideas about making a living and just what makes life worth living that will seem revolutionary to their friends and to their parents.

There are many possible avenues of approach to the problem. Publicity, education, and availability of information through well-directed channels are definitely essential. Agricultural colleges, extension services, chambers of commerce, county agricultural committees, I am sure, will enter wholeheartedly in a united effort to supply the boys with proper suggestions and advice. Stockmen through their state, county, and national organizations can take the initiative, and quite properly so. Perhaps the first step is an inventory of what we have to offer in the way of suitable land or available livestock set-ups. Time is an essential factor, for availability of this data through every possible medium to the veteran before he definitely makes up his mind is highly important. Perhaps the Veterans' Bureau and veteran organizations, such as, the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and our railroads, newspapers, and colleges would be more than glad to put their shoulder to the wheel. Your county agent and local stock associations would be an excellent place to start.

Do it now. There is no time to lose, for men are being discharged from the Armed Forces at the rate of one hundred forty thousand per month. Already there are rumblings and demands for bigger and better governmental land gifts. Some groups are talking five- and six-section homestead entries. You may say, “Ridiculous, incredulous, impossible,” but remember nothing is impossible under our political system—at least, in the nature of legislation when popular clamor reaches a high peak. We need not stress the disastrous effect on the economy of the range livestock states if such a land disposal policy were put in effect.

Read the *Saturday Evening Post* article above mentioned, and then get busy. Let us avoid the mistakes of the last postwar period while there is yet time to do so. You owe this to yourself, your sons, and to your industry.

Dr. Wollner in New Position

DR. Herbert J. Wollner, on October 16, assumed direction of the New York office of the United Nations Standards Committee set up to “carry out any international standardization job needed in the production and use of war supplies and equipment and also in relief work.” This committee, which has offices in both New York and London, is composed of representatives of Great Britain, Canada, Russia, and the United States.

Dr. Wollner has been in charge of the various laboratories of the Treasury Department and has served as special adviser to the Secretary of that Department. The work of these laboratories under his direction in making possible the collection of the full amount of tariffs on wool was presented by Dr. Wollner at the convention of the National Wool Growers Association in Denver last January. Similar projects on alcohol, sugar and other commodities have likewise been completed under his direction. Dr. Wollner is also known for his writing on scientific and technical subjects, and holds a number of patents for industrial and scientific devices.

The announcement of Dr. Wollner's recent appointment was made by the American Standards Association for the United Nations Standard Coordinating Committee.

Important Problems Before Cattlemen's Meeting

DENVER, Colorado, on January 11-13, 1945, will be the meeting place of western range cattlemen where their association will primarily deal with not only the present situation but also plans for the postwar era. It will be the 48th annual convention of the American National Livestock Association and over 500 delegates from 18 western states are expected to attend.

Executive Secretary F. E. Mollin has announced that there will be two round table discussions, one on world trade headed by Harry Terrell of the Western Policy Committee, Des Moines, Iowa, and the other on livestock marketing headed by C. J. Abbott of Hyannis, Nebraska.

Beef production, ranch labor, interstate sanitary regulations and many other problems will be discussed at the convention. Already a great deal of work has been done on the latter subject and more progress is expected to come by virtue of this convention.

Among addresses that will be given at the convention will be one by Mr. H. R. Davison, vice president of the American Meat Institute, Chicago under the subject of “Beef—Everyone wants it”; another by Eric Englund of Washington, D.C., chief of the Regional Investigations Branch of the United States Department under the subject of “The World Food Supply Situation”; Colonel Rohland C. Isker of Washington, D.C., from the Office of the Quartermaster General under the subject of “Recent Development in Army Meat Products”; Mr. R. E. Nagler, Chicago, Illinois, vice president of Deep Freeze Distributors Incorporated under the subject of “Merchandising of Frozen Meat”; Mr. Weyland Hopley, Atlantic, Iowa, under the subject of “Feeder Cattle” and an address by Mr. Charles Madrid of La-Cruces, New Mexico.

Addresses of Welcome will be given by the Honorable John C. Vivian, governor of the State of Colorado and Frank H. Fehling, president of the Colorado Stock Growers and Feeders Association. The response to the addresses of welcome will be given by Mr. Bruce Brockett, a cattleman from Rimrock, Arizona.



Top ram of 1944 National \$700.00
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Hampshires— Suffolks



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WALTER P. HUBBARD Chas. Buffurn, Shepherd
Junction City, Oregon

Hampshire—The Mutton Breed Supreme

Hampshire rams have proven themselves the best cross on native western ewes in producing market lambs. Feeders everywhere prefer crossbred Hampshire lambs. Increase your poundage. Improve your outlet. Up your profit in the sheep business. Use Hampshire rams.

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IT PAYS TO STAY WITH THE LEADER—BUY HAMPSHIRE

Welcome to Fort Worth

NATIONAL WOOL GROWERS ASSOCIATION

TEXAS, the greatest sheep and wool state in the country, is glad to welcome the nation's wool producers, meeting in convention in FORT WORTH January 29-31.

TEXAS, on the basis of the most recent official figures, (January 1, 1944 census) has 10,339,000 sheep, more than the combined totals of the two next highest producing states—Wyoming and Montana.

TEXAS, on the basis of USDA figures released recently, produced 81,000,000 pounds of wool in 1944, nearly a fourth of the country's entire production.

TEXAS is proud of this enviable record as a wool producing state, as well as a market that has served sheep raisers faithfully throughout the years. Fort Worth is one of the nation's leading sheep markets. In two months (May-June) the market handled more than 1,250,000 sheep. The year's total will be near the 2¾ million mark, a new record for this market.

Members of the National Wool Growers Association attending the convention are cordially invited to visit the greatest livestock marketing center in the Southwest and make our offices in the Exchange Building your headquarters.

FORT WORTH STOCKYARDS

A Division of United Stockyards Corporation

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

WELCOME TO FORT WORTH



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WE EXTEND A CORDIAL INVITATION

TO MEMBERS OF THE
NATIONAL WOOL GROWERS
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TO MAKE
OUR OFFICES YOUR
HEADQUARTERS
DURING YOUR STAY IN
OUR CITY



**NATIONAL
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FORT WORTH**

The Sheep Industry In The Postwar Economy

**Statements of President Winder and
J. B. Wilson Before House Committee**

PRESIDENT Winder and J. B. Wilson represented the National Wool Growers Association at a hearing of the House Committee on Postwar Economic Policy in Chicago on December 18. The Honorable Wm. M. Colmer of Mississippi, is chairman of the whole committee, and was present at the Chicago hearing, but the subcommittee conducting the meeting was composed of Representatives Zimmerman (Missouri), chairman; John Murdock (Arizona), Voorhis (California), Fish (New York), and Hope (Kansas), with Mr. Henry Arthur serving as secretary and consultant.

In telling the committee of the needs of the sheep industry, President Winder said that while sheep and wool production in the United States is a highcost industry in comparison with that of foreign countries, it had cost the government very little money and had been of great help in supplying food and fiber during the present emergency; also that its present difficult situation was due to factors beyond its control, which justified its request for protection in the postwar period. Our foreign trade policies should be designed, he pointed out, to protect and encourage agricultural enterprises, and suggested that a system of quotas be set up, liberal enough to "encourage foreign trade and yet strict enough to protect our American markets for American products."

President Winder also recommended that the government contribute to the research programs of the National Livestock and Meat Board and the American Wool Council.

Mr. Wilson, who was called shortly before the committee adjourned and therefore limited as to time, discussed the desirability of the government's setting up a real research program on wool, pointing out that little work of that kind had been done on wool and that only by individual mills who did not pass on their findings to other manufacturers. He also showed why it was necessary to have a new parity period for wool and discussed at some length

the necessity for a quota system on imports of both wool and goods.

The committee's keen interest in the present wool situation was shown by the numerous questions asked both Mr. Winder and Mr. Wilson. Chairman Zimmerman agreed that the parity period for wool needed to be changed and also declared that the wool problem is one of the most serious facing the country.

President Winder's statement follows, while that of Mr. Wilson, to be furnished the committee at a later date, will appear in an early number.

President Winder's Statement

POSTWAR economic policies for the sheep industry of the United States are dependent upon an affirmative answer to the following questions. Is it necessary and desirable to maintain a domestic sheep industry? Assuming that the answer is yes, the stability of income of this industry, therefore, hinges on productive employment of a majority of the citizenry, thereby stabilizing to a degree the demand for the products of the industry, which in turn creates sufficient production to take care of this demand. A high rate of employment is essential to the determination of all policies which your committee has requested action upon.

Men engaged in the sheep industry are continually improving the quality of the products for sale. They are doing a fine job in the production field, and will continue to improve the quality of their herds. Production in the sheep industry, of course, depends upon the utilization of natural resources, the value of which varies from year to year, but which resources are continuous when properly utilized. Of course there is a variation in the amount of production of these products, which is derived from the natural resources and it is necessary that proper practices of conservation and maintenance of these lands be continued. This policy has been established and is being improved all the time.

One of the major problems of this agricultural industry is to improve the distribution of the products. A subcommittee of the House Agricultural Committee has been set up and is working on a part-time basis to investigate the marketing of our products. Until these findings are before us, we hesitate to

(Continued on page 24)

Freight Rate Increases Again Suspended

THE Interstate Commerce Commission on December 12 again continued its suspension of the higher freight rates (6 per cent; 3 per cent on livestock and wool) authorized on March 2, 1942, under Ex Parte 148; this time until December 31, 1945.

While shippers are grateful that their freight charges are not going to be raised at this time, they are keenly disappointed that the original order granting the increases was not revoked and the increases permanently canceled.

At the recent hearings in Washington, in which the National Association was represented by Charles E. Blaine, the railroads told the Commission that their net income had fallen off during the past year and the revenue from the increased rates was needed to replace equipment and otherwise improve their operations after the war. The Commission held in its decision that the roads' estimate of 1945 business and earnings was lower than could reasonably be expected and refused to make the increases effective.

Commissioner Miller dissented from the decision in part, maintaining that the railroads should have the benefit of the increase not later than at the end of the war in Europe, while Commissioner Alldredge thought that such benefit should be given the railroads now.

In Memoriam Mrs. Russell Wilkins

LILLIAN W. WILKINS, wife of Russell Wilkins, head of Wilkins & Co., Ltd., in which Mrs. Wilkins was a general partner, died suddenly at her home in Broomfield, Colorado, December 18, 1944, at the age of 42. Funeral services were held at St. Catherine's Church in Denver on the 21st.

Mrs. Wilkins' charming personality and graciousness as a hostess brought her a wide circle of friends among the people connected with the livestock industry in all its branches. Mr. Wilkins, his two small sons, and other members of the family have the sincere sympathy of the officers and members of the National Wool Growers Association and the American Wool Council.

Pregnancy Disease In Ewes

TWO western sheep authorities have suggested effective remedies for sheep pregnancy disease which has caused serious losses of ewes and unborn lambs in some areas. One of these men is August L. Nelson, associate agronomist and superintendent of the experiment station at Cheyenne, Wyoming. The other is Dr. W. H. Lytle, chief of the division of animal husbandry at Oregon state college in Corvallis.

Nelson cites tests made at the Cheyenne station where boric acid was used for the first time in treating this disease, so far as he knows. It was first applied during the 1943 lambing season, and again in the 1944 lambing season when some ewes developed symptoms characteristic of the disease.

Fifteen afflicted ewes were each drenched with half a pint of saturated solution of boric acid. This was applied over a period of several weeks, and every ewe recovered, while in previous cases the sick ewes nearly always died. Showing further the effectiveness of this treatment, Nelson said that in December, 1943, an 18-year-old horse became so stiff he could hardly move. After receiving a quart of saturated boric acid solution every day for 3 days, the animal had recovered so well that he could walk all right and was put into harness again. Previously afflicted horses there had died.

In making up the solution, the Wyoming man said boric acid was dissolved in hot water, then allowed to cool to room temperature before being used as a drench. Some crystallization occurred during the cooling process, assuring a saturated solution of about 4.5 per cent boric acid. This was used in whatever amount had proved effective in curing the ewes.

As another method, Nelson said recent cases had been treated by mixing salt with the boric acid and giving it to 220 ewes in what he terms a 1:10 mixture, followed by 1:100 mixture. During 3 weeks of this treatment, none of the ewes developed pregnancy disease, and all of them seemed more thrifty.

Dr. Lytle reports some disastrous losses have occurred in sheep flocks due to sheep pregnancy disease. It was attributed to various causes, but treatment applied at the Oregon station revealed that afflicted ewes lacked proper

feeding and handling as they neared their lambing time.

Treatments tried out successfully showed that ewes came through lambing much better when their water was heated by means of a tank heater. When this wasn't practicable, the ewes were given glucose-yielding foods such as molasses or sugar beet pulp. Other effective methods were to make the ewes take needed exercise of a mile or two every day by forcing them to trail behind a slowly-moving wagon for their feed.

Since vitamin deficiency was considered partly to blame for the disease, ewes were given easily digested forage such as alfalfa or legume hay, well cured and of bright green color. Good quality grain also helped, but oat hay proved constipating and produced too much waste matter in the body.

Immediate treatment of ailing ewes at the Oregon school consisted of giving them half a pint of molasses twice daily as a drench. Glucose solution given the ewes extravenously by a veterinarian would also help ailing ewes, Dr. Lytle advised.—*Western Farm Life*, November 15, 1944.

Jackson Hole Bill Vetoed

(Continued from page 15)

committee held with the settlers. So, the action setting up the Jackson Hole Monument ignored the wishes of the people concerned and also previous action taken by the Congress.

When Secretary Ickes appeared at the hearing on H.R. 2241 before the Senate Public Lands Committee on December 15, he said: "It (the opposition) stems mainly from the stockmen, and other special interest groups, who if they could, would break down the entire public land policy of the government for their own selfish ends."

Senator Robertson went to bat for the stockmen in the following language:

Mr. Chairman, I want to put the strongest possible objection to that statement into the record. I am a member of the Wyoming Stock Growers Association, and the Wyoming Wool Growers Association; I have been vice president of the Wyoming Stock Growers Association and a member of the executive committee of both organizations. I am a member of the National Livestock Association and the National Wool Growers Association. In the many years I have taken an active part I have never known those

associations to do anything which could be construed as breaking down the entire land policy of the government for their own selfish interests. I most strongly object to and protest that statement. I think that is all.

Stockmen have no fear of the most careful scrutiny of their record of cooperation with government agencies set up to control the grazing on the national forests and the Taylor grazing districts, but with their livelihood at stake they naturally are fearful of the continual expansion of the national park and monument areas and the resulting reduction in grazing areas open to their flocks and herds, and particularly do they object to having it done so craftily as in the Jackson Hole affair.

That affair is not over. Undoubtedly, Representative Barrett of Wyoming, upon learning of the Presidential veto of H.R. 2241 expressed the sentiment of the entire Wyoming Congressional delegation, when he said, "The fight has just begun."

Value of Roughage For Ewes

GOOD quality roughage is the most important item in any ration for feeding ewes during gestation and lactation, Claude Harper, Animal Husbandry Department of the Purdue Agricultural Experiment Station, told the American Society of Animal Production in its annual meeting closing at Chicago on December 2. It is a factor in influencing milk production, the health of the ewe and the strength of the lamb, he said, while coarse and inferior roughages, apparently, have the opposite effect.

Stating that one problem which remains unsolved is that of supplementing an unsatisfactory type of roughage with energy, protein, minerals and vitamins, Mr. Harper drew on the results of ten years' study of rations for ewes during gestation and lactation. From the beginning, two rations have given wide variations. One ration of oats and alfalfa hay has always produced the greatest quality and quantity of lamb meat and the most wool as compared with a ration of oat straw and corn silage.

Some of the findings have been as follows:

Soybean oil meal, added to the ration of oat straw and corn silage, increased the wool clip to equal that of the alfalfa

hay, but did not improve the quantity and quality of the lambs.

When a protein supplement and a mineral mixture of soybean oil meal, calcium carbonate, and special steamed bone meal was added to the oat-straw and corn-silage ration, the amount of wool produced was improved, but the quality of the lambs did not show much improvement.

Some improvement in this ration was also obtained by the addition of a protein supplement, minerals, and ten different crystalline vitamins.

Protein supplements, such as cottonseed meal, soybean oil meal and linseed meal, when fed with good roughage, increased the quantity and quality of lamb meat as well as wool production.

Minerals like finely ground limestone, special steamed bone meal and the ash of alfalfa hay, have given no benefit when fed with either good or inferior roughage.

In an attempt to find a better roughage than alfalfa, it was discovered that dehydrated oat grass or rye grass, cut and cured at a definite stage of growth, was superior to alfalfa, either dehydrated or field-cured.

Hampshire Breeders Meet

THE 55th annual meeting of the American Hampshire Sheep Association was held in Chicago on December 5. The Secretary reported 505 new members, and registrations and transfers about the same as in the previous year. Elected to office were W. F. Glenn, Tyler, Texas, president; L. T. Dwyer, Indianapolis, Indiana, vice president; Mrs. Helen Tyler Belote, Detroit, Michigan, secretary-treasurer. Miss De Vere Porter of Crown Point, N. Y., was named director for District 9; Alex Meek of Burkes Garden, Va., for District 8; J. C. Holbert of Washington, Ia., for District 4; L. T. Dwyer and B. E. Groom, Fargo, North Dakota, directors at large; and Ronald Hogg, Salem, Oregon, was appointed to fill the unexpired term of C. Harold Hopkins, who resigned as director for District 1.

Keep Up U. S. Flocks!

I hope Congress will do all possible to encourage the keeping up of your sheep flocks," Robert E. Reardon of

Macleod, Alberta, Canada, wrote the Wool Grower on December 4. "I have a definite idea that it is good business for the United States to be in a position where they will always be fairly independent of foreign wool, as well as having a reasonable supply of lamb and mutton.

"It seems to me that the spread in price between the raw wool and the manufactured goods is generally higher than should be necessary. I have thought for a long time that, with the low price of wool in the raw state, people should be able to buy all the wools they need and not have to look on them as a semi-luxury."

President Winder's Statement

(Continued from page 22)

announce what policies should be adopted in the postwar period. We are sure, however, that with better distribution and better merchandising methods, greater stability of income will result.

Stability of Income

The sheep industry is a high cost industry when compared with the industry in foreign countries. However, it has cost the government very little money and has been of great help at the present time in supplying the extreme need for meat and fiber during the present war period. The predicament with which the industry is now faced has been created by many factors beyond control of the sheep producer. Therefore, it is absolutely essential that our government develop policies which will protect the industry during this period. It is not meant by this that further controls are needed, but that policies be adopted which will allow future production of lamb and wool in this country.

A good example of what may be expected in the future relative to the income from products of the industry is shown by what happened to the so-called government shearling program. When our armed forces needed pelts of a certain type in order to provide warm clothing, the announcement and the request was made for growers to increase the production of these pelts as rapidly as possible. This the industry did. When the demands for this product were no longer needed by our armed

forces, an announcement was made that the government would no longer need the shearlings. Immediately the price for shearlings dropped materially and at the present time our shearling pelts are selling at a price 50 per cent below that paid by the government.

This same principle will hold true for the other products of the industry if and when consumers are unable to purchase the products. Therefore, as stated before, the variations in production and in demand hinges on the high rate of employment and the relationship of the agricultural industry with that of all other industries in the productive field in the United States.

The Sheep Industry on a Self-Sustaining Basis

In normal times the sheep industry can and has maintained its operations on a self-sustaining basis without government regulation as we know it today, provided that the industry's products are protected from low-cost producing countries with a materially lower standard of living. Here, again, we are assuming that the answer is that there should be a sheep industry in the United States. There must be a price relationship between the commodities produced in this country and those imported into this country.

There is, of course, a definite need to study and analyze the supply and demand situation of these various products. It seems quite natural that there would be a lag between the supply and demand and that the price peaks and valleys cannot be entirely eliminated, but it is possible to minimize these high and low periods by proper protection measures which could be established for an industry such as ours.

Higher Levels of Consumption And Nutrition

Some years ago an organization was created by the livestock and meat industry known as the National Livestock and Meat Board. This Board was set up to promote the use of meat and to carry on research regarding the nutritive value of meat. This organization is financed by donations from livestock producers and meat packers and the policies are determined by a board of directors representing all branches of the industry. This organization has rendered invaluable service to the

Army and Navy services of supply during this war period.

Some consideration might be given to the idea of the government giving some financial support to this organization to enlarge and expand its activities.

More recently an organization has been created known as the American Wool Council, which is designed to function for wool very similarly as the National Livestock and Meat Board does for meat. If wool is to maintain its rightful place among fabrics a great deal of consumer education must be done and it was for this reason that the American Wool Council was created and financed by wool growers and aided to some extent by contributions from other branches of the industry. Some thought should be given to the government participating in this undertaking also. Just recently the Australian Government levied a substantial tax on all wool grown in Australia for promotion work and in addition the Australian Government contributes a amount equal to that raised by the tax. A considerable part of this money will be spent in the U. S. to promote the use of Australian wool here.

Relationship Between Our Foreign Trade Policy and Domestic Agricultural Policies

Before going into this matter it is necessary to determine whether policies should be designed to encourage or discourage the production of sheep in this country. We feel for several good reasons that a thrifty sheep industry must be maintained.

1. It has been proved during this war that there is no suitable substitute for wool to clothe fighting men. When Japan threatened to close the sea lanes from Australia and New Zealand and the German submarines were preying on our ships to and from South America, it was fortunate that we had as healthy a sheep industry in this country as we did have.

2. It is necessary to maintain a sheep industry in this country because there are communities and even counties in some of our western states where the entire economy and existence is dependent upon the sheep industry. In some western states the sheep industry ranks right at the top so far as cash income is concerned. Also the sheep on the western ranges consume and make use of a natural resource which otherwise would be a total waste.

3. It has been found that meat is an essential part of a healthy diet and certainly we do not want to become dependent upon some other nation for meat and wool, both of which contribute so much to the health of our nation.

Assuming that the premise is correct that a thrifty sheep industry should be maintained and conceding that the costs of production are a great deal higher in the U.S. than in other sheep producing countries, this higher cost is caused chiefly from the demands of a much higher standard of living here than elsewhere in the world.

Then assuming these two things it becomes necessary to design our foreign trade policies so that our desire to build up an industrial foreign trade does not condemn our agriculture to extinction. We feel that it is possible to build up our foreign trade and at the same time protect and encourage the development of the necessary agricultural enterprises. At times in the past when trade agreements were made with other countries, agriculture was traded down the river so that it became necessary to inaugurate a system of subsidies and programs designed to curtail production. We must not lose sight of the fact

that we have here the greatest market in the world today and our policies must be designed to prevent this country from becoming a dumping ground for the products from other countries which compete with commodities produced here at home. It has been suggested that a system of quotas be set up, liberal enough to encourage foreign trade and yet strict enough to protect our American markets for American products so that our high standard of living can be maintained rather than lowered to the point where we can compete with other lower-standard-of-living countries.

YOUR WOOL CONTRIBUTION

While some of the wool handlers have made the deductions (10 cents for the larger bags, 5 cents for the smaller ones) covering grower's contributions to the wool promotion fund in 1944, a number of them have not done so. If the deduction was not made from your account, we hope that you will send your contribution to your state association for remittance to the American Wool Council.

National Wool Growers!

WELCOME to TEXAS

Because we realize how exceptionally important the work of your organization is during war times, we are concentrating on making you comfortable here at the Texas during your forthcoming convention.



The DEN
"Fort Worth's Bright Nite Spot"

An Army That's Never Been Beaten

THIS vast American agricultural army doesn't know the meaning of defeat. These millions of American farm and ranch people are advancing along the road to final victory, shoulder to shoulder with the men and women in the armed services. No "E" flags fly from the ridgepoles of their barns . . . no medals are pinned on their shirt fronts. Their reward is the inner satisfaction of a job well done.

Look at their record of victories! In 1944, food production again reached an all-time high—158,950,000 meat animals were slaughtered; 3,101,000,000 bushels of corn, 1,115,000,000 bushels of wheat; dairy products, poultry, eggs, etc., in record or near-record quantities! And because they produced all this food, the meat packing industry was also able to process and distribute a record volume of meats—25 billion pounds.

Each year since the war started, what seemed to be "impossible" goals were set for food production. Each year these objectives have been reached and surpassed in spite of shortages of help and machinery. Farmers and ranchers have produced the staggering tonnages of foods required to feed millions of Americans and our allies in the armed services and the rest of the nation at home.

America is proud of the victories won by this "Army That's Never Been Beaten."



\$5.00 FOR YOUR GOOD IDEAS!

Practical ideas which you have found helpful around your farm or ranch are worth money. We invite you to send in brief descriptions of any original idea or handy gadget that has helped you in your farm or ranch work of producing livestock, dairy and poultry products, soybeans, cotton or other crops. Selected ideas will be published on this page, and we will send you \$5 for any item of yours which we print. Items cannot be returned to the senders. Mail your ideas to Swift & Company, Agricultural "Good Ideas" Editor, Chicago 9, Illinois.

Buy More War Bonds

What do you know?

- 1) In what country do the people eat more meat per person—United States, Australia, Argentina?
 - 2) How many slaughterers compete in buying U. S. livestock—10, 1500, 25,000, 800?
- Answers on opposite page.

What's Ahead for 1945?



Another new year starts, full of promise, and of questions for American agriculture. Will the war end in 1945? How much food will Europe need from us? Will rationing and price controls be relaxed? What about the feed situation? These are but a few of the "ifs" we are up against when we make plans for the coming year. To

help livestock producers, we condense opinions recently expressed by War Food Administration economists.

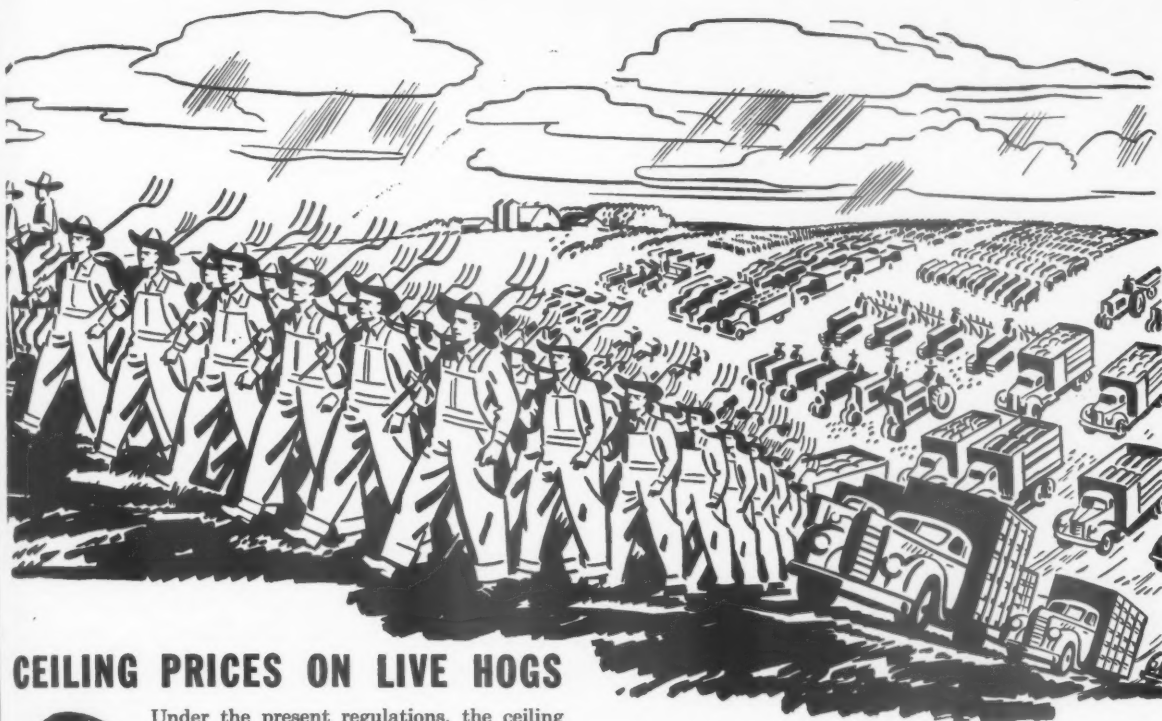
CATTLE: They foresee for '45 an increase in the number of cattle and calves slaughtered, partially as a result of the tendency to reduce the size of herds. They also expect an increase in the number of cattle fed for slaughter. From 1946 to 1949, they expect a gradual decline in slaughtering, with yearly slaughter around 28 to 29 million head.

HOGS: Their estimate of total 1945 hog slaughter is about 79 million, against approximately 100 million in '44. They expect hog production in 1946 to be close to 1945 levels, depending on the feed situation.

SHEEP, LAMBS: Slaughter in '45 will likely be the smallest since 1929, due to recent selling of breeding stock. By 1946, they see a demand far exceeding the supply, leading to possible expansion of flocks over the following five years. This trend may be upset by wool-factor uncertainties.

We have a pamphlet on "Beef Cattle Prospects for 1945," by C. W. Crickman, Economist of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. D. A. Want a copy free? Mail your request, attention F. M. Simpson, to Swift & Company, Chicago 9, Ill.

★ ★ ★ NUTRITION IS OUR BUSINESS — AND YOURS ★ ★ ★
Right Eating Adds Life to Your Years, and Years to Your Life.



CEILING PRICES ON LIVE HOGS



Under the present regulations, the ceiling price for all live barrows and gilts is \$14.75 per hundredweight and for all sows, stags and boars the ceiling is \$14.00 per hundredweight.

These ceiling prices are for Chicago only, and vary from market to market. The difference between the ceilings for sows, stags and boars, and for barrows and gilts is 75c at all markets, however.

Present support prices are as follows: "Good" to "Choice" barrows and gilts that weigh between 200 and 270 pounds have a floor price of \$12.50, Chicago basis. At terminal and interior markets other than Chicago, the support price is \$2.25 below the ceiling price (as of Nov. 15, 1944) at that market for hogs within the 200 to 270 pound weight range.

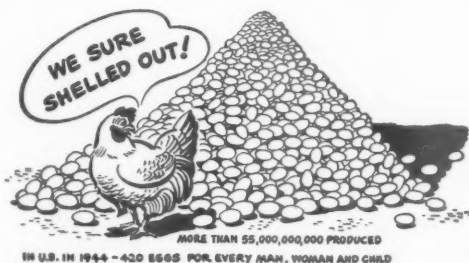
These support prices will remain in effect until June, 1945.

FREE MOVIES

Three professionally made talking pictures: (1) *Cows and Chickens, U. S. A.*, (2) *Nation's Meat*, (3) *Livestock and Meat*, of intense interest to farmers and ranchers. Ideal for farm and livestock organizations, lodge, club or school performance. All you pay is transportation one way. Can use these films only on a 16 millimeter sound projector. Please order a month in advance.

Soda Bill allows:

- If you use all the steam to blow the whistle, what'll you do for power to turn the wheels?
- A man is successful when his earnings catch up with his yearnings.



THE EDITOR'S COLUMN



In nearly 20 years with Swift & Company, I have talked with thousands of farmers and ranchers in all sections of the United States, and have tried to bring about a better mutual understanding in the American livestock and meat industry. I have benefited greatly from these talks. But even in 20 years, a man can get the viewpoint of only a relatively few people. That is why this page has been born, so that we can talk things over with more of you than it is possible to do personally. We want your constructive ideas, views, and thoughts for the betterment of the livestock and meat industry. We will welcome your suggestions and fair criticisms. Any questions you raise will be answered in these columns, or by letter.

So should you feel like writing me a letter about any agricultural matter, please do so. Or if you are in Chicago, drop in at my office at Swift & Company, Union Stock Yards. If you haven't time to visit, perhaps you can phone me at this number—Yards 4200, local 710.

May the new year bring to all of you good weather, good crops, good returns for your work, good health, and an end of war.

F.M. Simpson.

Agricultural Research Department

"What do you know" Answers. (1) Argentina (2) 25,000

Swift & Company CHICAGO 9, ILLINOIS

Wool In Review

Purchase Program Extended

THE War Food Administration on December 21, 1944, announced the 1945 Wool Purchase Program in the following manner:

"The 1945 Wool Purchase Program of the War Food Administration will become effective January 1, 1945. This program is essentially a continuation of the marketing plan which has been in effect for domestic wool since April 25, 1943.

"As in the past, the War Food Administration will enter into agreements with established wool dealers and co-operative associations under which they will purchase, store, handle, and sell domestic wool for the account of the Administration. Purchases will be made at substantially the same level as under previous programs—that is, at prices in line with the ceiling value, less allowances to cover the cost of transporting and marketing the wool and a service fee of 1½ cents per grease pound. The value of wool purchased under the 1945 program will be determined on the basis of official appraisals.

"Sales will be made to manufacturers for essential civilian and war uses at ceiling values.

"In order to avoid a decline in lamb prices during the late months of 1945, the new program will apply to domestic wool offered to the War Food Administration and appraised by June 30, 1946."

Further details are not available to us at this time. The schedule of prices is understood to be the same as the 1944 program with the exception that some reductions in the price of short, defective and less desirable wools have been made.

Government Requirements

Bids which were requested by the Quartermaster's Depot last week (December 23) clarified the prospective government requirements for the first half of 1945, and brought the total worsted needs to 44,625,000 yards. Although the woolen needs are not entirely clear at this time, it is known that a consider-

able quantity of blankets will be required, with estimates running as high as 26,000,000. However, that seems excessive to some, but they will require between 50,000,000 and 90,000,000 pounds of medium grade wools. It is expected that approximately 9,000,000 yards of 32-ounce overcoating will be required also.

The first call by the Quartermaster's Department indicated that the materials would have to be made from between 75 to 100 per cent domestic wool, but at the present time it is anticipated that the requirements will be for the use of 50 per cent or more of domestic wools, except that in cases where use of domestic wools would retard delivery dates, the amount of domestics is not specified. The present situation, however, is very favorable for domestic wools as preference is being given them in military goods.

The lowering of specifications on serge to allow for the use of grades of wool to 60's and above will be of material benefit and will, of course, not interfere with the production.

Machinery Usage

Wool mill consumption in 1944, as estimated on the rate up to the present time, will amount to over a billion pounds, greasy basis. This, in spite of a drop in volume during the fall months. The outlook for future mill activities is very good.

As a result of the enormous demand for the armed services, the entire worsted division, and at least 50 per cent or more of the total production capacity of the wool manufacturing division will be used for military requirements until at least June 2, 1945, and it is now anticipated that military needs will occupy at least 50 per cent of both the worsted and woolen industries for the balance of the year.

Conservation Order

The Textile Clothing and Leather Goods Section of the War Production Board, on December 14, amended the

general conservation order, M-73, to provide that between December 31, 1944, and May 12, 1945, no manufacturer shall produce wool top except to fill rated orders (military requirements), and that between January 14 and June 2, 1945, no spinner shall put into process any wool top except to produce yarn to fill a rated order. This, of course, means that the production of civilian fabrics for this period will be greatly curtailed.

Wool Stocks

The latest report from the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce (on December 5, 1944) indicated the total commercial stocks of raw wool in the United States as of September 30, 1944, to be 718,200,000 grease pounds, 449,219,000 being domestic wool, and 268,981,000 pounds, foreign wools. These commercial stocks were in the hands of manufacturers, including top-makers, dealers in Boston and the surrounding territory, and so-called country dealers in the Middle West and the West.

Domestic Wool Supplies

The National Wool Trade Association secured and distributed this week (December 23) figures on the stocks of domestic wool on hand which would meet the various specifications called for in the military contracts.

This release indicated 80,000,000 pounds of 64's and finer, 32,000,000 pounds of 62's, 17,000,000 pounds of 60's, 27,000,000 pounds of three-eighths, and only 2,100,000 pounds of quarterblood shorn wools available. It also reported that there are 50,000,000 pounds of original-bag, 12-months' Texas wools available which will meet the specifications for the serge contracts.

In addition to the above, there are available approximately 13,000,000 pounds of greasy pulled wool stocks, and 15,000,000 pounds of scoured pulled wool.

It would appear that these figures are conservative when considered in connection with the report of the Comm-

ity Credit Corporation as to stocks on hand November 11. The C.C.C. indicated there were 334,000,000 pounds of wool available as of that date. Of course it is realized that a considerable quantity of this wool will not meet the present required specifications.

Foreign Wools

Market reports indicate that the foreign wool supply is tight at the present time, and that little of it is available at present. But recent sales to manufacturers assure ample supplies into the 1945 season. The fact that over 23,000,000 pounds of foreign wool from Australia has been purchased between the 1st and the 15th of December indicates that this quantity will be available to manufacturers. This indicates that during the year 1944 considerably over 600,000,000 grease pounds of foreign wool have been imported.

C.C.C. Purchases and Sales

The Commercial Bulletin reports that appraisals of 1944 domestic wool up to the week ended December 16 had reached a total of 349,320,033 pounds, which included 295,581,974 pounds of greasy shorn wool, and 2,847,372 pounds of scoured shorn wool. Of this total, approximately 55 per cent was appraised at Boston. The latest figures we have show that 30.4 per cent of the total 1944 appraisals have been sold. Quarterblood wools made up by far the greatest part of the sales, 68.2 per cent; three-eighths were second at 31.3 per cent; next, fine, 24.6 per cent; halfblood, 21 per cent; and fine medium, 18.3 per cent. This, of course, accounts for the shortage of quarterblood wools at the present time, and it is felt that a month from now the percentages on marketing of the other grades will have materially increased.

Stockpile Liquidation

The December 13th auction sale of foreign wool amounted to over 6,000,000 pounds, or 24.2 per cent of the total offering. This brings the total poundage of wool sold by auction to approximately 174,500,000 pounds. Of the 101,300,000 pounds of wool offered but not sold, over 37,000,000 pounds have been sold by brokers. This would leave approximately 120,000,000 pounds to be sold from an original stockpile of 330,000,000. All of the South American

wools in the stockpile have been sold, 61 per cent of the Australian grease wools, 50 per cent of Cape wools, 13 per cent of New Zealand, and approximately 51 per cent of the Australian scoured and carbonized. This indicates that 36 per cent of these foreign wools are available to the market, although it is understood that a considerable portion of them are not of types desired by our manufacturers.

Wool Fund Contributors

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Willis & Maggie Lynch
Willis Lynch
Lester Lee
Penrod Brothers
Carmen Stiles

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(Continued on page 48)

The Huge Military Requirements

By F. E. Ackerman, Executive Director,
American Wool Council

A report of important developments in requirements for military uniform fabrics and their effect upon the domestic wool clip and the wool textile industry, based on a series of conferences which Mr. J. B. Wilson, Legislative Chairman of the National Wool Growers Association, and Mr. Ackerman had in Washington the early part of December.

IT is apparent that previous conceptions as to the immediate and future wool textile requirements for both the Army and the Navy are undergoing radical revisions upward. It is plainly evident—and frankly admitted—that estimates of requirements for both branches of the services have been woefully underestimated. A contributing factor to the present situation, according to reliable information, has been the interference of government agencies, which has prevented the Quartermaster General from obtaining the reserves which in the Quartermaster's opinion were essential. Certain of the agencies have vetoed efforts of the Quartermaster to accumulate inventories which he believed were necessary. The attitude of the O.P.A. in holding the procurement agencies to rigid price ceilings has prevented them from obtaining production of wanted and needed items.

The basic reason for the present situation, however, is that requirements for our own armies, the armies of our Allies, and our war prisoners are inestimably greater than was anticipated. Here are a few examples. The invasion of Normandy involved upward of 2,000,000 men in such a rapid advance that they left behind them practically everything but the clothing which they wore. When the troops were sufficiently stabilized to permit renewals of uniforms, complete outfits were required and everything—overcoats, blankets and uniforms—which were discarded became useless for further Army use. This condition continues because the Army has not yet been able to establish necessary laundering, dry cleaning and fumigating facilities by which uni-

forms could be repaired and renovated. These facilities exist in Italy where the per capita requirements for renewals are probably one fourth of those now existing in France or Germany. An indication of the urgency of present uniform requirements is indicated by the statement that it was necessary recently to collect all the blankets in all the training camps throughout the country which were not actually in use and to ship them abroad for the use of our

Further, the American Army has taken, and continues to take, an enormous number of German prisoners. A very large percentage of these prisoners must be outfitted with suitable clothing and every one of them receives a blanket or two blankets. After the first issue of clothing there remains the necessity for maintenance of supplies in prison camps. The French Army, which now numbers some 2,000,000 men and is expected to increase, is uniformed from the skin out with American equipment. We are under heavy obligations to the Russians and the Chinese, and it is expected that these obligations, particularly to the Chinese, will increase greatly as the war in the Pacific gains in scope and momentum.

Future Factors

It is evident that military authorities are revising radically their ideas regarding the length of the war in the Pacific and the area in which it will be won. You will recall that in most of the of-

ficial pronouncements regarding Army and Navy requirements in the Pacific area emphasis has been laid on the necessity for cotton rather than wool, because the war was being fought in tropical and sub-tropical areas.

The outlook now is that the war is moving and will continue to move into the northern Pacific, and that both the Army and the Navy will fight this war in Chinese waters and on Chinese terrain. The climate in this area is one which rivals our own Northwest in severity and which will require as much if not more wool than is required in the European terrain. I got the impression that the military authorities do not believe any more that the war with Japan will be won by the Navy alone but with the aid of an invading army fighting out of the China area.

Aside from the, as yet undetermined, quantities of wool and woolen products which the Pacific campaign will require for our own forces, we will be forced by necessity to provide equipment for Chinese forces which will be thrown into the war.

The Navy, it is reported, is rapidly re-orienting its outlook as to requirements, and very shortly will be in the market for large uniform requirements which it must have promptly.

Immediate Army Requirements

Exact quantities and different qualities are now being determined. They will probably be disclosed at the meeting of the Industry Advisory Board of the W.P.B. set for Tuesday, December 12, at which representatives of the Quartermaster General's office will be present.

It will be emphasized then that chief immediate requirements are for Melton overcoatings, 18-ounce serge and blankets. Present indications are that no shirtings will be ordered for delivery the first quarter of 1945. An idea of the quantities of goods required may be gauged by the fact that the Army wants from 10 to 15 million yards of serge for

(Continued on page 32)

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Huge Military Requirements

(Continued from page 30)

delivery the first quarter of 1945 in addition to the 9 million yards now on order.

As you know, a critical situation exists with respect to Army underwear and socks. The W.P.B. in a few days will issue an order restricting the production of all French knitting yarns from December 17 to January 17 for rated orders. This is in addition to the 50 per cent restriction now operating on Bradford spun yarns. After January 17, 1945 it is more than likely that French and Bradford yarns will be restricted at least 50 per cent.

In addition to their major requirements, the Army, Navy and collateral services will ask bids at regular intervals during the first quarter of 1945, for later delivery on tropical worsteds for officers, and for uniform materials for Wacs and Waves. While individual quantities in each instance will be small in comparison with the major requirements, they will, in the aggregate, represent a considerable yardage and add to the production burden on mills. They will add also to requirements for wools of fine grades.

Estimated Mill Production Required

The Quartermaster General's Department estimates the Army alone will require 85 to 90 per cent of the mill capacity of the country for the first quarter of 1945. After that he believes requirements may be met with 50 per cent of mill capacity for the balance of the year. The exact requirements, of course, depend on the results of the European phase of the war. It is apparent, however, that when this phase of the war ends, we will immediately develop a huge army in the Pacific area. Also our continuing obligations in Europe to our Allies and to the civilian populations will not cease.

Wool Supply

Wool dealers and Durham Jones, Chief Appraiser of the C.C.C. with whom I talked, are not too sanguine regarding the availability of a sufficient supply of fine Australians to meet present and future requirements. We have a fair supply of fine foreign wools in the government-owned foreign wool stock-

pile. In the British stockpile, however, over 70 per cent of the wools are of the Continental type, 10,000 bales of fine wools—70's—were traded from the British stockpile to our government recently in exchange for Continental types which we owned.

I had a letter a few days ago from F. E. Hitchins, president of the Australian Wool Producer's Federation, in which he was pessimistic over the available supply of fine wools in Australia. While their inventories are large, his opinion is that a disproportionate amount of fine wools have been sold, leaving less durable grades. He added that Australia is in the grip of one of the worst droughts in its entire history which may seriously affect the 1945-46 wool clip.

Available Domestic Wool

The Commodity Credit Corporation has on hand 70,000,000 pounds of Texas 12-months' wools of which 40,000,000 pounds are 64's and better and are eminently suitable for the 18-ounce serge. These are the nearest to Australian fine wools produced in this country. The C.C.C. also has on hand 33,000,000 pounds of half-blood wools all graded and of fine character, 60s or better. The liability of the Texas wools is excessive noilage. Byron Wilson discussed this with Mr. Darden, chief of the Wool Section, who stated that the C.C.C. would be responsive to a suggestion that an allowance to compensate for this be made to manufacturers or topmakers.

In this connection, one of the leading manufacturers of the country stated that he was using Texas 12-months' wool in over a quarter of a million yards of 18 ounce serge which he is now making. He dumps the wool and says that his rate of production approximates that of Australian wool and that his costs are no greater. He is using the wool as a straight business proposition.

The 33,000,000 pounds of half-blood wool, all graded, is said to be of fine character and several dealers who have inspected it said that all it needed to be made available for the serge was to change the grading ticket. Wool growers will support any efforts by topmakers or manufacturers to put this wool into work for uniform materials. General Corbin, Director of Procurement, Quartermaster's Department, to whom it was suggested, demurred against

lowering the quality of the serge. He recalled the low quality of materials left after the last World War which, he added, had to be used up. He was assured that the use of the half-blood wools would not change the texture, feel or other qualities of the serge to any perceptible degree and that it would actually strengthen the fabric. I feel confident that he would agree to the use of this wool if topmakers and manufacturers would favor it. J. B. Wilson has written General Corbin a letter detailing the available domestic wool supplies and urging their freest use in the new army requirements.

Garment Manufacturing Problems

The W.P.B. and the Quartermaster Department indicate strongly that they will issue directives to garment manufacturers requiring immediate production of needed uniform garments as soon as textile requirements are established. These directives will not be confined to men's wear manufacturers but may include those women's wear manufacturers who are equipped to produce the items required.

Conclusion

It seems certain that present conditions mean a more realistic and a sterner approach to the question of getting military requirements from the textile and garment industries. Aside from reducing civilian business almost to the vanishing point it would seem it will require a reappraisal by mills of sources for needed raw materials—including wool—of which there now threatens a shortage of needed types for required goods instead of the surplus about which all are complaining. It should further strengthen domestic wool growers' determination to oppose lowering of domestic wool prices. Further, it should have a decided bearing on efforts looking toward a subsidy in order to bring domestic wool prices to a competitive parity with prices which the British Government has established in this country for Australasian wools. It would seem logical to watch the effect of demand on the present and forthcoming domestic wool clip before considering lower prices or any other artificial devices which are designed to force domestic wool prices to dealers and manufacturers to lower levels.

Lamb Market Reviews and Trading Activities

AVERAGE prices which farmers have been receiving for ewes in 1944 will probably run 40 cents per hundredweight under 1943 prices. Lamb prices will be approximately 15 cents per hundredweight lower. According to the U. S. Department of Agriculture, farmers received an average price of \$6.57 per hundredweight for ewes in 1943 compared to approximately \$6.17 this year, and \$12.90 per hundredweight for lambs in 1943 compared to approximately \$12.75 this year. Averages for 1944 are estimated on quotations available at this time, and are subject to some revision.

If these statistics accurately reflect farm prices, there is certainly no justification for any reductions this year, in view of ceiling prices on dressed meat and the further fact that Department of Agriculture figures show rising operating costs on our farms in 1944.

When sheep and lamb slaughter figures are tallied for 1944, they will probably show a decrease of about 1,500,000 head from the 1943 slaughter of 23,363,000.

On Monday, December 4, about one-third of that week's total supply of salable lambs was offered at the twelve principal markets. Prices were already working somewhat lower and this bulge was an added incentive for lower bidding on the part of some buyers. This is one example of "disorderly marketing." Spreading out of shipments over the entire week might have strengthened prices to some degree. Although sharply curtailed receipts the last half of the week had a tendency to strengthen prices, the market, generally, did not fully regain its early decline. Good and choice fed western, native and wheatfield lambs sold mostly at \$13.50 to \$14.25, although a top \$15 was paid for some choice lambs. Good and choice slaughter ewes sold from \$5.50 to \$6.65. Feeding lambs offered the first week of December were of somewhat plainer quality than earlier offerings, which was partly responsible for a decline in market prices. Most good and choice feeding lambs sold at \$11.75 to \$13. Several carloads of mixed fat and feeding lambs brought \$13.50 to \$14.

Deep snows in the Middle West hastened lamb marketing in some areas during the second week of December. The Kansas City market had the largest salable supply since March, 1943. Good and choice fed western and native lambs sold on the markets mostly at \$13.75 to \$14.50, although a top of \$15 was paid at Chicago. Slaughter ewes topped at the various markets from \$5.85 to \$6.75. Good and choice feeding lambs sold at \$12 to \$13 the second week of December, while some 76- to 93-pound mixed fat and feeder carloads brought \$13.25 to \$13.75.

During the last two weeks of December good and choice fed, woolled lambs rose sharply at some markets. Prices ranged from \$13.50 on the West Coast to \$15.15 at Denver and \$15.25 at Chicago. Ewes held steady

the last half of the month, with good and choice kinds bringing mostly \$5.50 to \$6.75 and common to medium kinds, \$4.75 to \$5.50. Choice native ewes at Chicago brought up to \$7.25 and some fed western ewes also brought this price during the last week of December. Feeding lambs were active and steady during the last half of the month, with good to choice lots selling from \$11.75 to \$13.25; medium to good kinds, around \$11; and mixed fat and feeding lambs, \$13.60.

E. E. M.

Cattle Ceilings

THE entire sheep industry is watching closely the developments now taking place relative to the proposed

Prices and Slaughter This Year and Last

	1944	1943
Total U.S. Inspected		
Slaughter, First 11 months	19,941,685	21,104,862
Week Ended:	Dec. 23	Dec. 25
Slaughter at 32 centers	407,316	366,603
Chicago Average Lamb Prices (Wooled)		
Good and Choice	\$14.80	\$14.56
Medium and Good	13.65	13.36
New York Average Western Dressed Lamb Prices*		
Choice, 30-40 pounds	26.50	26.38
Good, 30-40 pounds	25.00	24.88
Commercial, all-weights	23.00	22.88

Weight, Yield and Cost of Sheep and Lambs Slaughtered

	Nov. 1944	Oct. 1944	Nov. 1943
Average live weight (pounds)	91.2	88.7	90.2
Average yield (per cent)	44.4	45.4	44.4
Average Cost per 100 lbs. (\$)	10.19	10.48	10.45

Federally Inspected Slaughter—November

	1944	1943
Cattle	1,335,737	1,289,603
Calves	873,919	624,741
Hogs	5,258,194	6,971,752
Sheep and Lambs	2,012,588	2,369,955

*These carcass prices reported by the Livestock and Meats Branch of the W.F.A., are ceiling prices.

ceilings on live cattle. Not only are they interested in the welfare of the cattle producers, but they are also hoping that something constructive may come from the present conferences that will assist the sheepman in realizing cost of production for his lambs.

Although it has not been possible to secure a copy of the proposed O.P.A. order, it is understood that the Office of Price Administration desires to place an overall ceiling of \$17.50 on all cattle, with an increase of 50 cents per hundred pounds on the two better grades of beef, and to increase the subsidy to the packers. Chester Bowles, O.P.A. Administrator, told New York retailers that there is "absolutely no chance" of prices being increased to consumers.

The plan would also require slaughterers to kill all grades of cattle instead of only the best grades as is now being done by some processors.

The present "flare-up" has been occasioned by the action of the New York retailers, many of whom have closed their shops because of the inability to secure good beef under O.P.A. ceilings. The black market has apparently gotten out of control. It is stated that even the Army cannot meet its requirements. Eastern packers threaten to close unless cattle ceilings are imposed immediately.

The War Food Administration contends that the O.P.A. proposal will not work and do not believe that ceilings on livestock are possible to administer.

Senator O'Mahoney, Wyoming, invited 11 Senators to meet with the administration officials on December 22 in an attempt to work out a solution. He indicated two primary reasons why live animal ceilings would not remedy the situation: "(1) It is impossible to tell the meat value of an animal before it is killed and dressed, and (2) there is not sufficient labor available to even attempt to grade livestock on the hoof."

In the Senators' conference on December 22, they were insistent that something be done to better protect the producers of livestock. The report states that they were not impressed with O.P.A.'s solution.

Lamb Rationing Unchanged

THE Office of Price Administration tightened controls on many processed foods on December 26, 1944, by

placing them back on the ration list; increased points on butter from 20 to 24 and placed point values on many more meat items, including veal in the three higher grades, and all grades of beef; increased points for all pork cuts and put meats packed in tin or glass back on the list.

There were no increases in ration point values on lamb cuts.

This means, therefore, that rationing for lamb includes point values on the carcass, primal cuts and fabricated cuts of AA, choice, A, good and C, commercial. There is no rationing on the utility or cull grades of lamb, and all grades of mutton are now exempted.

Chicago

DEMAND for sheep and lambs during the month was uniformly good and fluctuations in prices from day to day were small until late in the month when a spurt in the demand raised the top for fed western lambs to \$15.25, the highest paid since the middle of last August and 50 cents higher than a year ago.

The December supply of 225,000 was the smallest for the month since 1941. The salable supply of lambs consisted largely of fed westerns from nearby territory and showed a good average quality for this time of the year. Buyers were strongly interested in good lambs to ship and these were the top market makers. Good lambs sold largely during the month at \$14 to \$14.50. During the middle of the period prices sagged and the top dropped to \$14.40, but there was soon a revival with the closing values at the peak.

Cull lambs and plain mediums dragged slowly at comparatively low prices ranging from \$11 to \$13.50, but they were in the minority and did not much affect the month's average price, which was placed at \$14.85.

Feeder buyers had strong orders but not many lambs of the feeder class showed up. There was not much change in this part of the market, for buyers put a limitation on how high they could go in the face of future uncertainties. Most of the feeders went out at \$12 to \$13, with the common qualities down to \$11.

An active demand prevailed for ewes all month with prices at the highest level since last June. Top reached \$7.25, which was the best in six months. A

good many ewes sold at \$6 to \$7, with the plainer kinds and culls at \$4.50 to \$6. The condition of the pelt was an important factor in the price.

Yearlings were in good demand and, like lambs, advanced rather sharply late in the month. Choice sold at \$13 to \$13.35 with the lower grades at \$12 to \$13, and some common sorts down to \$11. Aged wethers were quoted at \$8 to \$9.

The supply of sheep at Chicago in 1944 totaled 2,060,000, the smallest year's total since 1889. There was a good demand for all ovine stock during the year, stimulated by war conditions which called for more lamb and mutton material than usual. Slaughter lambs for the year averaged \$14.85, only a fraction under 1943. It was the highest year's average since 1925.

Ewes averaged \$5.63 compared with \$6.79 the previous year. Feeder lambs sold on an average at \$12.55 against \$12.50 in 1943.

The valuation of all livestock received during the year was \$526,000,000, which was \$23,000,000 less than in the previous year. Of this total, sheep represented \$24,895,000, which was \$5,418,000 less than in 1943. The average value per head was \$12.10 against \$12.70 last year. Omitting 1942 and 1943, the total value of ovine stock was largest since 1931. The slaughter of sheep over the country was a record.

As usual the source of the year's supply was in the range country, but this total was modified by many unusual conditions contingent on the war. California contributed a very small number of lambs during the year, because demand on the western coast for fresh meat took practically all except what was sent through this market for packer account. A large percentage of the lambs raised in the mountain area also went west, which accounted for much of the shortage here.

The new year is starting out with lambs a little higher than a year ago and with prospects of a better market unless a ceiling is placed on lambs on the hoof. Conservative estimates show that there is a shortage of 10 to 15 percent in the lamb supply compared with a year ago. This gives promise of better prices for finished lambs. Because of the high price of feed and lofty labor costs, feeder buyers have been extremely cautious this year and showed a closer discrimination in quality than usual.

Frank E. Moore

Omaha

ALTHOUGH fat lamb prices suffered a setback early in December, the improved quality that accompanied the advent of the fat lamb run bolstered the trade. Closing prices were 50 @ 75 cents higher than the November close and \$1.50 above the month's low time.

Something over 185,000 head of sheep and lambs were yarded at Omaha last month and, with the exception of 1943, that supply was the largest for any December since 1931.

Better quality fat lambs sold from \$14.25 to \$14.50 as the session opened and in just a few days top prices had slipped to \$13.75. That loss was soon recovered and prices made a continual advance and the \$15.00 top price was paid the last three days of the month. Bulk of the month's fed lamb offering turned from \$14 to \$14.75.

Although the weather in the local feeding area was not conducive to lamb feeding operations, demand was good throughout the month. Supplies were comparatively scarce with only a few direct from the range, and the bulk was warmed up kinds. Good and choice feeders carrying weight turned from \$13 to \$13.35 and a few plainer kinds cleared from \$12.25 to \$12.75. Numerous shipments of mixed fats and feeders sold straight from \$13.35 to \$13.75.

Demand for killer sheep was broad enough to absorb the supply of fat ewes readily, as prices pushed upward as the month progressed. Closing values were 75 cents @ \$1 above the end of November. Quite a few range ewes continued to move and the medium kinds cashed from \$5.75 to as much as \$6.50 toward the close of the month. Best ewes indicating considerable grain feeding sold from \$6.50 to \$7. Best native ewes, too, were going at \$7 at the close.

A few bred ewes were offered but country buyers failed to take hold of that kind to any great extent.

Fat yearlings were more plentiful than in most recent months and those carrying flesh were in good demand. Closing prices were about steady with the November close. Packers took the bulk of the offering from \$12 to \$13 and a few were good enough to bring \$13.25. Odd shipments of feeder yearlings went back to the country from \$9.25 to \$10.50.

Dave Lorenson

St. Joseph

RECEIPTS for the month of December, including the 27th, were approximately 92,000 compared with 88,247 for November and 97,492 for December a year ago. Of the month's total, around 17,000 were from Kansas wheat fields, and a big part of the balance were from native territory.

Compared with a month ago, native lambs were around 25 cents lower, with best on late days selling at \$14 against \$14.25 a month ago. Western lambs were about steady with best wheat fields \$14.25 @ 14.50, and better finished kinds quoted to \$14.75 or higher.

Shorn lambs were freely marketed during the month, and best pelted kinds sold practically on a par with woolskins.

Older classes of sheep were 25 cents or more higher for the month. Choice ewes reached \$7 late in the month, with others largely \$5.50 @ 6.50.

Yearlings sold mostly \$11.50 @ 12.50, with choice kinds quoted to \$13, and two-year-olds sold \$10 to \$10.50.

H. H. Madden

Denver

SHEEP receipts at Denver for December, 1944, totaled approximately 82,000 head compared to 100,000 head in 1943, a decrease of about 18,000 head. For the year 1944 sheep receipts totaled about 2,517,000 head compared to 2,715,000 in 1943, a decrease of approximately 198,000 head.

With the range season practically over, and movement of fed lambs barely started, the decline in the market during the first week of December was no surprise to the trade. Choice trucked-in lambs brought \$14.50, while medium to good lambs were fairly numerous at \$12 to \$13.75. Good and choice load lots sorted from mixed fats and feeders sold at \$14.25 late. Fed lambs, averaging 108 pounds, from northern Colorado, made \$14.85 early. Ewes were actively wanted by killers and this class closed mostly 15 to 25 cents higher than the previous week's top. A few good and choice trucked-in ewes reached \$6 for slaughter, others going at \$5.50 to \$5.85. Common and medium ewes bulked at \$4.50 to \$5. Early in the week, most good and choice feeding lambs sold at \$11.75 to \$13.50, the inside price taking 52-pound weights.

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Numerous loads of mixed fats and feeders, or fleshy feeders, turned at \$13.50 to \$13.75, including 85-pound weights. A load averaging 74 pounds made \$14 early.

During the second week, with the exception of a steady to slightly higher price trend on slaughter lambs, the market showed no change. Choice truck-ins topped at \$14.40, quite a variety of weights ranging up to 107 pounds. Two loads of fed lambs sold at \$14.35 and also graded mostly choice. Shorn lambs with No. 1 pelts made \$14. Medium to good 82-pound yearlings with fall shorn pelts went out at \$11.75 to a killer. Good and choice slaughter ewes ranged from \$5.50 to \$5.85 and this class showed little or no change from day to day. The small crop of feeding lambs went out at about steady prices. Mixed fat and feeding lambs averaging 76 to 84 pounds sold at \$13.50 to \$13.60 in load lots. The practical top on straight feeders was \$13. Good and choice loads ranged from \$12.25 to \$13, the inside price taking around 60-pound whitefaces from New Mexico.

All classes worked higher during the third week. Slaughter lambs closed

unevenly strong to 25 cents higher. Choice truck-ins topped at \$14.40 each day, this price taking weights ranging from 68 to 130 pounds. Weight, obviously, had little influence upon prices, but killers paid close attention to quality and condition because strictly good and choice lambs continued scarce. Good and choice fed woolled loads sold at \$14.25 to \$14.35, the inside figure also taking clipped lambs with No. 1 pelts. Ewes finished mostly 25 cents, in instances 50 cents higher. The top on good and choice slaughter offerings went to \$6.15. Better grade feeding lambs advanced mostly 15 to 25 cents. Around 75-pound weights, carrying a few fats, reached \$13.75. Up to \$13.50 was paid for straight feeders in a small way. Medium to good whitefaces, averaging a little under 50 pounds sold at \$11.

Influenced to some extent by the Christmas holiday, receipts dropped, and slaughter lambs took the opposite course, closing sharply higher for the last week under review. Gains ranging anywhere from 25c to 75 cents were uncovered. Good and choice truck-ins showed the least improvement. Choice

fed woolled lambs averaging 111 pounds reached \$15.15, the highest since early September. Others made \$15. Choice truckins scaling 90 to 107 pounds sold up to \$14.65 late. Slaughter ewes failed to keep pace with the lambs, but worked higher, mostly 25c to 40 cents up. Good and choice lots made \$6.35. Common to medium kinds sold largely at \$5 to \$5.75. Not enough yearlings arrived to test quotations. Feeding lambs were also very scarce and sold mostly steady. Good and choice around 65- to 75-pound lots and loads went out at \$12.50 to \$13.35. Common to medium 58-pound Arizonas landed at \$10.50.

Jacqueline O'Keefe

Kansas City

H EAVY rains followed by cold, snow and ice in the wheat pastures of Western Kansas were partially responsible for comparatively large marketings of sheep during the month of December, although the fact that many lambs which have been on wheat pasture for a considerable time were ready for market discounted to some extent

(Continued on page 38)

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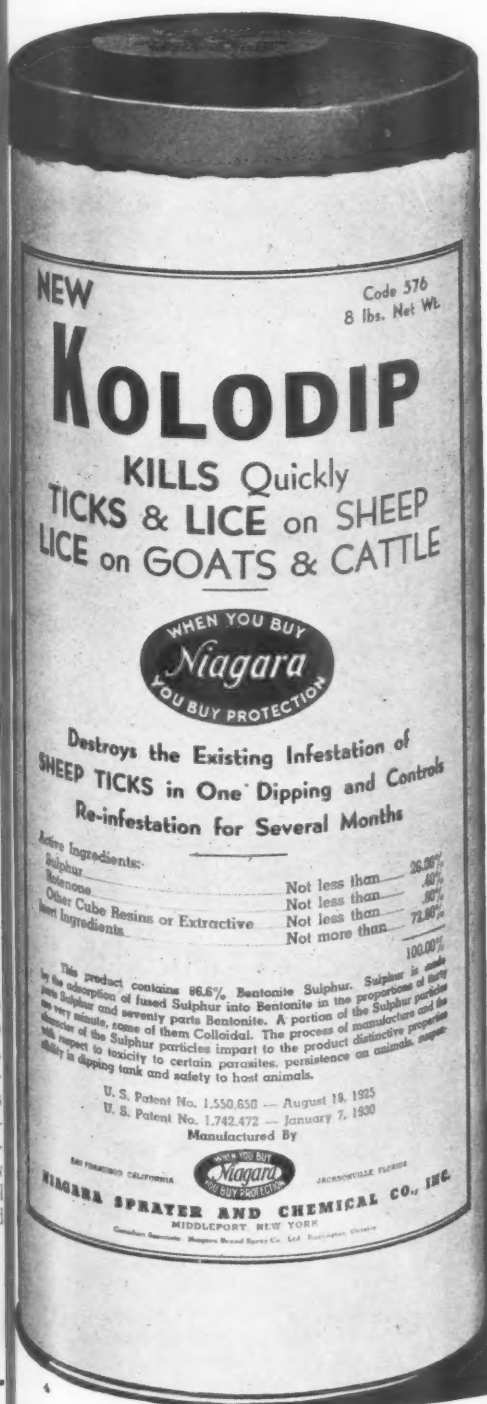
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Lamb Markets

(Continued from page 36)

the effect of the weather. Eighteen thousand salable sheep arriving on one Monday during the month however, was a sizable run for this season of the year. Nearly 170,000 sheep and lambs have passed through this market since the 27th of November, of which approximately 154,000 were salable, the balance passing through to feed lots to the East. These comparatively large mar-

ketings, coupled with average quality that was not too desirable, conspired to keep lamb values down while yearlings held about steady and ewes are generally higher.

Prices on today's market, December 28, show a strong upward trend and the best wheat pasture and fed lambs offered brought \$14.50, as against a nominal quotation of \$14.75 for top grade offerings, which were in small supply. Best natives brought \$14; good and choice truck-in lots from nearby feedlots \$13.50 to \$13.75; good and choice yearlings \$13; medium and good kinds \$10.75 to \$11; top ewes \$7, and other good and choice shipments from \$6.50 to \$6.85.

For the month good and choice lambs are considered steady to \$1 lower. The top nominal quotation remains the same at \$14.75 while the lower end of the price spread on good and choice grades dropped to \$13.50. Medium and good lambs are 75 cents to \$1 lower at \$12.25 to \$13.25 and common grades are 50 to 75 cents lower at \$10 to \$12. Good and choice yearlings are steady to a dime higher at \$12 to \$13 with the advance at the top end of the range from \$12.90 to \$13. Medium and good kinds are steady at \$10.50 to \$11.75. Slaughter ewes of good and choice grade are 25 to 40 cents higher at \$6.25 to \$7 and common and medium kinds steady to 25 cents higher at \$4.75 to \$6.

Bob Riley

*It is with great pleasure that we welcome the
National Wool Growers Association to Fort Worth
for their Convention, January 29-30-31, 1945.*



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Marketing Sheep Presents Numerous Problems

SINCE earliest history, sheep have occupied a prominent place in contributing to the welfare of the human race, providing food, clothing, etc., without which life would have been most difficult. While not recorded, it is highly probable that sheep were among the first animals to enter Noah's Ark, with the possible exception of goats, as it would have been difficult for Noah to persuade sheep to enter the Ark without the aid of goats to lead them.

The handling of sheep on a large major market, when the volume sometimes reaches 45,000 to 50,000 head per day, presents quite a problem for those entrusted with their care. Frequently it is necessary, when unloading out of trucks, to carry several head from the truck into the unloading chute before the others will follow. In unloading out of railroad cars it is necessary that trained goats be sent into the cars among the sheep to lead them out into the unloading chutes.

Counting sheep enroute to their pens calls for an expert checker. He partially opens the gate letting them pass through in as near a single line as possible. When they start to move through the opening they move fast, too fast to count one at a time. The counter counts them usually in threes, fours or fives. He may get somewhat dizzy, but never sleepy, and his accuracy is amazing.

Sheep, a highly perishable commodity, must be carefully handled, promptly fed, watered and shaped up for sale; sold, weighed and forwarded to destination speedily to prevent shrinkage and loss of weight. This calls for systematic teamwork on the part of stockyards management and market agencies. They must be prepared at all times to handle promptly a maximum run of sheep to the market. They must have necessary labor on hand to unload, register, drive to pens, feed, water and prepare for sale the shipments consigned to them by their clients, and to sell, drive to scales, weigh and deliver to the buyer, preserving the identity of each owner's sheep until final disposition.

It is quite difficult to visualize the organization necessary in handling millions of sheep moving through the public government supervised markets

each year. For example, at Fort Worth for the year from November 1, 1943, to October 31, 1944, this market handled 2,708,807 sheep.

Sheep are the only animals not purchased solely on appearance. Buyers usually feel them to determine the degree of flesh they are carrying and also examine their teeth for age.

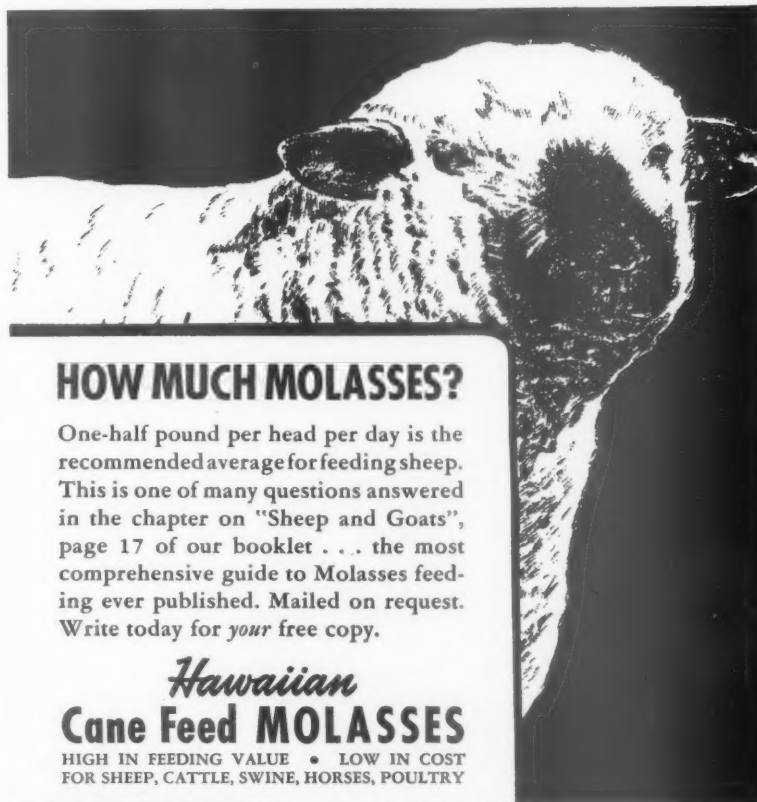
It is also noteworthy that Texas sheep are healthy and free from infection. Federal and state inspectors cannot recall when they found infected sheep on this market. These inspectors are very thorough in their inspection of sheep leaving the market destined to other states as stockers and feeders, and this also applies to all livestock shipped from the Fort Worth market, except for immediate slaughter.

E. C. Walsh, Fort Worth Stockyards

Physical Fitness, A Meat Board Project

CONTINUING effective work in meat education and promotion to meet wartime conditions was shown in the reports of the heads of the various departments of the National Livestock and Meat Board, in its regular semi-annual meeting, Chicago, December 8.

While work with the armed services remains the Board's largest project, its program to promote the physical fitness of our population through proper nutrition is expanding rapidly. Founded on facts about the vitamin content of meat and its retention through proper cooking, about its value as a source of pro-




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tein, and the use of fats, as revealed through research work sponsored by the Board at ten of the leading universities and colleges of the country, the nutrition project is aimed largely at the younger generation through an intensive program with grade school children.

A "teaching kit" of six pieces of literature has been prepared. Chief document is a 32-page nutrition reader, "You and Your Engine," written by Laura Oftedal of the Laboratory Schools, University of Chicago. Simply written and attractively illustrated in color, the book compares the child's body to a locomotive with the child as the engineer, shows him what fuel it should get to run effectively. The kit also includes a set of six wall charts in colors, showing the foods that are the best sources of six food elements: calories, protein, vitamins, calcium, iron and phosphorus. Another colored chart shows the proper amounts of meat and other foods needed in the diet. Requests for 10,000 copies of this kit have come to the Board within recent weeks from teachers, home demonstration agents, home economists, the American Red Cross, nutritionists, children's health bureaus, state and county nutrition committees, dietitians, boards of education, departments of public health, visiting nurses' associations, home service directors and other groups, which shows the need for and interest in material of this type.

Slidefilms on meat cookery are also being distributed by the Board for use in educational institutions.

Assistance is being given by the Board to hotels and restaurants and other large users of meat. Its booklet, "Cooking Meat in Large Quantities," has had wide distribution, and its demonstrations before hotel and restaurant groups have been highly successful.

Education of the public in general on the place of meat in the diet and how it should be prepared to retain its high vitamin content and other important food values is being done by the Board through its moving picture, "The Way to a Man's Heart," new recipe books, and other literature. Also, in anticipation of the greater use of frozen meats in the future, the Board is sponsoring a research project at the Iowa State College to determine the best ways of defrosting such meats and preparing them for the table.

Grazing District Quarterly Notes

A summary of range and livestock conditions in the 60 grazing districts compiled by the Grazing Service on information furnished by regional graziers in the ten western states.

Fall movement to winter ranges in the northern states was completed in early December. Condition of cattle and sheep is generally good. Ranges are spotty but prospects were improved by late November rain and snow. Unseasonal heavy snow in isolated areas blocked roads and caused some difficulty to seasonal operations. Advisory board meetings to consider grazing applications for 1945 were completed in most districts, results of which indicate no outstanding changes from the previous year's stocking.

Arizona

(C. F. Dierking, Regional Grazier)

Prolonged summer and fall drought in northern and western Arizona was generally relieved by storms. Prospects for winter and spring feed are good in all districts except in the Arizona Strip where precipitation has been light. Range conditions in this district are still far below normal. Sheep ranges are in general better than cattle areas. Improved vegetation in the Kingman, Maricopa, and Safford districts was re-

tarded by cold nights during December. The stock water situation is improved in all areas. The summer and late fall drought affected cattle range adversely over most of the district areas.

Colorado

(Russell B. Rose, Regional Grazier)

The movement of sheep and cattle from Colorado Grazing District ranges to markets is practically complete; light movement of cattle is still in progress. Prices for finished livestock increased during the last half of the quarter, followed by improved demand and prices for feeders, all classes. Improved wheat pastures in Kansas were also a contributing factor. Shipment of lambs showed a 15 per cent decline from a year ago.

Seasonal movement of sheep and cattle from fall to winter ranges is about completed. All classes of livestock entering the winter ranges are in excellent flesh, with normal forage conditions available. Little moisture has fallen on most Colorado winter ranges to date, causing a continued scarcity of stock water.

Idaho

(Kelso P. Newman, Regional Grazier)

The dry summer was relieved by fall rains beginning about the first of No-

vember throughout most of the grazing districts in Idaho. Very little green feed was produced this fall; fortunately, however, there was ample dry cured feed as a result of late spring rains which resulted in considerable growth being carried over for fall use. So far, Idaho has experienced an open fall and livestock have remained on the fall ranges longer than usual, all classes of livestock being in better than normal condition.

From all indications there will be an ample supply of hay at fair prices to carry the livestock through the winter. Cattle sales this fall have been heavy, indicating that stockmen in general are in accord with the recommendations of their national and local organizations, that they cull the herds carefully to get numbers down to a safe basis.

Montana

(R. E. Morgan, Regional Grazier)

The stockmen in the Treasure State have experienced an autumn that has been truly beneficial to their operations. The early part of this last quarter was somewhat dry although the water holes held up well. However, by early November, sufficient moisture had been received in most areas to freshen the range feed. Dry weather with temperatures above normal has permitted the farmers and stockmen to

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get their fall farm work and marketing well along in spite of the shortage of help.

Reports indicate that generally more she-stuff has been marketed this fall and more young stock retained. The shipments of livestock are about over except for the odd lots still being disposed of through the local auction rings. Reports indicate that generally the stockmen are well pleased with the condition of the stock as well as the prices received. The stockmen of Montana marketed more grass-fat stock that went directly to the packer than usual.

Nevada-California

(Nic W. Monte, Regional Grazier)

Beneficial moisture was received in all districts during November. In only scattered areas was this belated precipitation nullified in part by freezing weather. Some sheep were snow-bound during early November in the Ely and Elko districts, but exceptionally light losses were reported. Stock water is adequate and livestock entered winter ranges in good condition. Cold, wet weather retarded customary late fall

use of meadow pastures in Nevada, many ranchers reporting such feed badly frozen. Numbers of cattle and sheep on feed are slightly reduced as compared to the previous year.

The exceptional summer drought in southern Nevada was abated in November and stockmen welcomed the improved range prospects of the Searchlight District. Similar improved conditions are reported from the Mojave District.

New Mexico

(E. R. Greenslet, Regional Grazier)

Livestock shipments are nearly completed and range conditions as a whole, with the exception of the Magdalena area, are probably the best that they have been for some 10 to 20 years. The attitude of the ranchers is to reduce their herds instead of building up to excess numbers, a condition that was prevalent throughout this region after the last World War.

Chaco District, New Mexico

(Harry W. Naylor, Regional Grazier)

Cattle and sheep are entering the winter in average condition in spite of

short fall feed. Sales this fall were average or slightly above; good feeder lambs bringing as much as 12½ cents, with Navajo lambs of 58-pound average bringing 8 cents. Lighter lambs sold from 5 cents to 7 cents. There is still a large percentage of these small lambs on the ranges that should be removed and buyers interested in this class of feeders should investigate.

Weather conditions here have been excellent up to December 1, sufficient snow for proper use of the range, but no severe storms. Non-Indian operators have been able to buy concentrates sufficient for insurance. Indian operators do not feed but operate entirely on a range basis.

Ogden

(Kenneth C. Ikeler, Regional Grazier)

Advisory board meetings and elections were held in all districts during the month of December, with most protest meetings scheduled early in January.

Cattle prices have strengthened materially in the past six weeks, and practically all range stock has found a market at quite satisfactory prices. The

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demand continues to be very strong for cows, and there is a ready sale for cows and calves. Feeder lambs that were put on beet fields, and other aftermath, have made a favorable showing both in weights and prices.

Utah

(C. F. Moore, Regional Grazier)

Precipitation beginning during the latter part of October and extending well into November greatly improved winter range prospects in the majority of areas. Eastern Utah was the notable exception but the anticipated water shortage for trailing and for use of the late fall and early winter ranges fortunately failed to become acute. Snows that were moderately heavy in the western and southern part of the state but almost faded out in the eastern part improved the usability of the range.

Despite a dry summer the excellent spring forage growth maintained its vigor, particularly the sages and shadscale. As a result, desert range conditions were only slightly less than normal. Eastern Utah districts, because they did not receive appreciable fall

moisture, showed less promise than usual for safe winter operations.

Cattle remained in the high country later than usual but they were in good flesh when they were gathered. Sheep likewise are going into the winter in better flesh than was the case a year ago.

Wyoming

(Milton W. Reid, Regional Grazier)

Range and weather conditions have been very favorable for range livestock during the past three months. A good supply of well-cured range feed was available throughout most of the region. Early snows in October and November permitted a good distribution of livestock, and as a result of these conditions, all classes of range livestock have done exceptionally well.

A review of applications for the 1945 grazing season indicates a reduction of 5 to 10 per cent in sheep numbers compared to last fall. Among reasons given are (1) inadequate supply of experienced labor; (2) a desire to liquidate indebtedness while prices are good; (3) apprehension over the future of the wool and lamb industry.

Marketing of cows was somewhat heavier than a year ago. However, replacements were generally made with heifer calves which leaves cattle numbers about on a par with last year.

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It's mighty important, mighty important. It's that worming before winter and no ordinary wormer is adequate for the job.

You worm with PTZ,* the phenothiazine remedy of Dr. Hess & Clark, because it is very effective against six species of sheep roundworms. Included in these six are the terrible stomach worm and the nodular worm.

For this particular worming, you want to use a therapeutic or worm-expelling dose of PTZ.* Either PTZ* Pellets or PTZ* Powder in a drench does the job in fine style if you just follow the simple directions on the package.

Just remember this fall worming of the flock is important and there's absolutely no better product for the job than PTZ*—get PTZ* from the Dr. Hess Dealer —PTZ* Powder in lb. packages, \$1.25; 5-lb. packages, \$1.20 lb.; 10-lb. packages, \$1.10 lb.; 25-lb. packages, \$1 lb.

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Stockyards

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Send \$2.00 with your boy's address to the National Wool Grower, 509 Pacific National Life Building, Salt Lake City 1, Utah, and the Wool Grower will be sent regularly to him each month.

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Lend Over Here Till It's Over
Over There

Around the Range Country

Around the Range Country is the individual sheepman's section of the National Wool Grower and is open for reports of range and livestock conditions and other information or expressions of opinion on problems of interest to sheepmen generally.

The report of general weather conditions is taken from the telegraphic summary for the week ended December 26, published in the Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin, U. S. Department of Commerce.

Conditions In General

The most severe cold of the season occurred over the northern third of the country from the Rockies eastward during the week ending December 26, 1944, as a result of outbreaks of cold arctic air. Minimum temperatures reached 20 degrees below zero or slightly lower in a few sections from Montana to the western Great Lakes, in Pennsylvania, New York, and northern New England.

Precipitation was quite general over Pacific States through northern and central California during much of the week, with the heaviest 24-hour amounts reported in

northern California sections. Scattered, but predominantly light, precipitation also occurred over much of the West and the Northeast during the period.

The week was generally colder than normal in practically all northern parts of the country and generally above normal in western and southern sections. The departures ranged from 5° to as many as 14° (degrees) in a wide area from the Lake region westward to Montana, while the plus departures were 7° to as many as 11° in the Great Basin and adjacent sections.

Livestock is mostly in good condition, but considerable feeding is required in most parts of the country. In Kansas and Oklahoma it has been necessary to discontinue grain pasturage due to the cessation of growth. Pastures continue to be only poor to fair in Louisiana and Mississippi. Rain in Arizona has, however, improved ranges in that area. Feed is mostly ample through the country, but in New England the hay lacks food qualities because of the dry summer.

Arizona

Chandler, Maricopa County

The flocks are on irrigated pastures in Salt River Valley and due to cold

weather feed is scarce (December 22), December was considerably colder than in the last few years and the alfalfa cannot grow. It is selling at \$25 a ton in the stack. We do not use concentrates.

Although this year's losses from predatory animals have been as great as last year, the percentage is small. In comparing operating costs of this year with 1942, I find that they have been higher; in comparison with 1943, they are about the same, except labor, which is much higher.

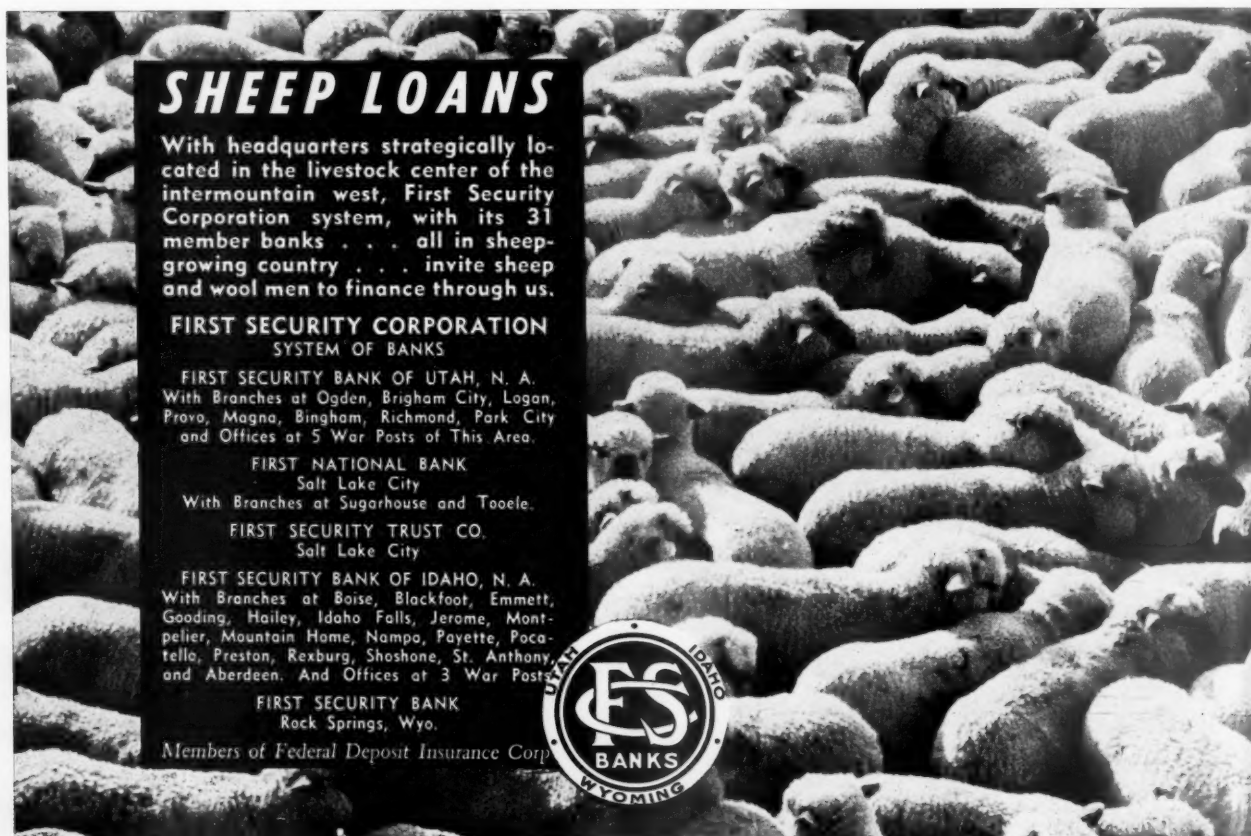
Our sheep flocks are about through lambing and are in very good condition. There have been no sales of yearling ewes recently.

Irving Gibson

California

Arcata, Humboldt County

The ewes here in the most northern part of California are in fair condition.
(Continued on page 46)



SHEEP LOANS

With headquarters strategically located in the livestock center of the intermountain west, First Security Corporation system, with its 31 member banks . . . all in sheep-growing country . . . invite sheep and wool men to finance through us.

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JAKE: Way I figure, *distribution* is the real key to future prices—and distribution methods are improving all the time.

MARY: How is that?



JAKE: Long as I've been farming, the Safeway people have been cutting down the "in-between costs." It's boosted our share of each dollar city folks pay for food.

MARY: But can Safeway alone do much good?



JAKE: It isn't Safeway alone. This streamlined method of food distribution Safeway pioneered is an idea that's spreading.

MARY: Good! I like the idea of streamlined distribution!



JAKE: Right you are! And say, did anybody ever tell you you're pretty streamlined yourself?

MARY: Hmm—time you got back to your bucksaw, you old timber wolf!

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Around the Range Country

(Continued from page 44)

considering the fact that the rains came late this year. However, the weather so far (December 24) has been quite mild and the grass has a good start. We have had over fifteen inches of rain, which is just a little above normal.

The number of breeding ewes is just about the same as in the past several

years. Yearling ewes were sold last year for \$12 a head with the wool off. This year I had some to sell but was unable to dispose of them. However, there were some sold at \$11 with the wool off.

There is no alfalfa hay in stacks here as there is too much rain to stack it and very little is raised this near the coast. Baled alfalfa is \$38 a ton, which is too high. We have been able to get some soybean pellets, but the price is \$70 a ton, which is also unreasonably high.

Our December weather has been unusually nice. The general loss from predators was a little higher for 1944 than it was in 1943. Bear depredations were the cause of the rise.

Expenses have risen much faster than the price of wool and lambs. That is due to several reasons. For example, the cost of labor is just about double what it was in 1942, concentrates are about one third over the 1942 level. We used to buy good alfalfa hay delivered at \$20 a ton, now as I have already stated, it is \$38 a ton. Shearing prices, wool bags, and transportation are just a few of the things that have risen all along the line. They are all higher than the amount we get on our produce. So the sheepmen as a whole are not as well off today as they were in 1942. Then I received 14 cents per pound for lambs f.o.b. my ranch and this year I got 14 cents in San Francisco.

I guess all we can do is "grin and bear it."

F. W. Christie

Diamond Springs, Eldorado County

The feed got a good start with the early rains but has not grown much because of cold weather (December 26). Conditions are about the same as last year but not as good as two years ago. Concentrated feeds are fairly ample but alfalfa is not available in this country. Fine-wool and crossbred yearlings have been selling at \$8 to \$12, depending on their quality. The carryover on the ewe lambs and number of ewes bred are about the same as last year. The returns on my 1944 wool were satisfactory, but the ceiling is too low.

The coyote situation is getting worse. I don't think shooting is an effective method of control, and we do not have enough trappers available either.

Ford L. Canfield

Walter J. Gooding

Jack Warnock

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Colorado

Grand Junction, Mesa County

The sheep are in better than average condition due to the fact, I believe, that we have had mild weather so far (December 24), and that the forage is more plentiful than in former years. There is little change in the number of ewes bred. There has been some sale of yearling ewes at \$12.50 to \$14, depending on their quality. The condition of the range is much better than it has been in the last few years.

Alfalfa hay in the stack is about \$15 and I have not tried to get any concentrates as yet. The loss from predators is about the same as in the past. Running expenses this year are 75 per cent over 1942 and 40 per cent over 1943.

Peter Jouflas

Wolcott, Eagle County

The weather has been dry and cold (December 26). The feed is somewhat short and the water is frozen. Concentrates, however, are available. Alfalfa hay in the stack is selling for \$15 a ton. We did not raise any fine-wool or crossbred yearlings, neither did we carry over any ewe lambs this fall. The number of ewes bred is about 20 per cent short of last year's figure because of the cost of labor and material. Only part of the time do we have sufficient help. I was quite satisfied with the returns on my 1944 wools. The coyotes are quite bad; we have a good trapper but he has too much territory to cover. We do not have sufficient ammunition.

J. W. Holland

Sheridan Lake, Kiowa County

The number of ewes bred is only about 80 per cent of the 1943 figure, and we've only carried over about half as many ewe lambs. We can't get sufficient herders and for those we do get we have to pay three times too much—and we don't get any more for our wool. The coyotes are on the increase and are getting many of the lambs. Even with this situation so bad we cannot secure the ammunition we need.

E. T. Hawthorne

(Continued on page 52)

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RAMS

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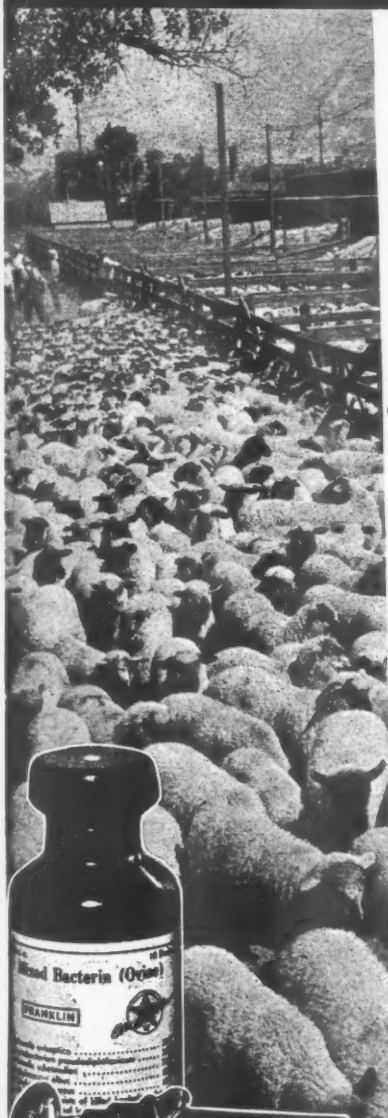
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(Continued on page 50)

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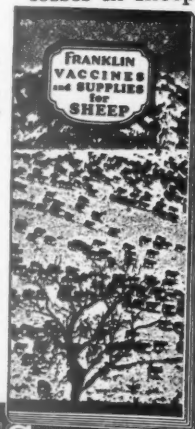
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Auxiliary Activities

Program for the 16th Annual Convention of the Women's Auxiliary to the National Wool Growers Association appears on page 11.

Texas Auxiliary Meeting

THE annual meeting of the Women's Auxiliary to the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association in San Angelo, December 3 and 4, was one of the best in point of attendance and general interest. The members and guests were complimented with the following courtesies:

Tea in the home of Mrs. Howard Cox, the afternoon of December 3.

Dance in the Cactus Hotel, the evening of December 3.

Breakfast at St. Angelus Hotel, the morning of December 4.

The breakfast was followed by the showing of a number of beautiful wool costumes, coats, negligees, and children's apparel by Miss Addie Runyon of Cox-Rushing-Greer Company of San Angelo.

At the business meeting, Mrs. J. T. Johnson, Water Valley, was elected president; Mrs. Worth Evans, Ft. Davis, first vice president; and Mrs. Jimmie Maddox, Sweetwater, second vice president. Mrs. Johnson appointed the following: Mrs. Phillip Thompson, San Angelo, recording secretary; Mrs. Scott Hargrove, Paint Rock, corresponding secretary; Mrs. John Treadwell, Menard, parliamentarian.

One of the most interesting features of our meeting was a talk by J. A. Gray of Texas A. & M. College on "Using More Wool in the Postwar Period." He had on display a number of sheep pelts made into the so-called "plastic furs." The Women's Auxiliary of Texas registered disapproval of the term "plastic" being used with any product that is 100 per cent wool, but were delighted with the beautiful wool furs that bid fair to be much used for coats in the postwar period. Mr. Gray is scheduled to talk to the National Auxiliary in Fort Worth, January 30.

Mrs. Marsh Lea



White Wool for Winter

THE fashion for winter white proves that wartime limitations merely act as a challenge to new American designers' ingenuity. When the government limited the number of woollen weaves that can be made, they made a few fabrics give the effect of a wide variety by whipping up some lovely new colors for winter such as fuschia, yellow, chartruese greens, and reds.

Then somebody asked "Why not white?" So white it is for one of the most luxurious winter fashions to be seen in many years. White lavishly trimmed in mink, in silver fox, and in beaver. These perfectly super white coats are worn over your dressier daytime clothes, for evening, over slacks, and for the South.

This fashion for white is a hint of what we can expect when the "lid's off" after the war and the sky is the limit. Fashions this winter have a subtle feeling of the Victory we can all expect shortly.

Winter-white Stroock wool fleece short top-per coat. (NEA photo)

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Dow Phenothiazine



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Around the Range

(Continued from page 47)

Mack, Mesa County

All young sheep are in good condition but the old ones are somewhat thin and are being fed some (December 21). There is no change in the size of our sheep bands. Feed conditions are not very good. The grass is about the same as in the past few years but there is little water. In fact, the grass is so dry, the sheep have to be watered every day.

Alfalfa hay in the stack is obtainable at \$18 per ton. We can get only about half of our order in concentrates. Soybean pellets are selling at \$70 a ton, corn is going at \$50 a ton and oilcake is impossible to get.

We had a 11.4 per cent loss from predators on the summer range as against 9.6 per cent last year. The cost of operating increased about 30 per cent between 1942 and 1943 and there was another increase of 10 per cent during this last year.

Rudolph Johnson

Lewistown, Fergus County

We have had an open winter to date (December 21), and the sheep are in

splendid condition. The range has been a little dry until the last 30 days when we have had a little snow, which has improved conditions considerably. However, the range itself is about the same as it has been in years past.

I have not tried to get concentrates yet, but alfalfa is selling at \$8 to \$10 a ton. There were no ewe lambs saved in this country to speak of this fall and most of the yearling ewes were shipped to market. We will have nothing but old ewes in this state unless someone changes the present plan and starts keeping some of the ewe lambs. Only about half as many ewes were bred as in 1943 due to labor conditions and the increase in operating expenses. Running expenses now are 50 per cent higher than in 1942 and 15 per cent higher than 1943. The loss from predators is not any greater than it was last year.

Evan W. Hall

Nevada

Elko County

Range and feed conditions have been fair, which is about the same as last year, but not so good as two years ago. Alfalfa hay is going at about \$15 a ton

(December 2). There were not as many ewe lambs carried over this fall as last, nor will there be as many ewes bred as a year ago. We haven't enough competent help to get the job done. The prices received for the 1944 wools was satisfactory. Although we can get ammunition, the coyote situation is very, very critical.

E. A. Clawson

South Dakota

Belle Fourche, Butte County

Fine-wool and crossbred yearlings are going at about \$8 to \$10 per head (December 4). The number of ewe lambs carried over is somewhat less than last year and fewer ewes have been bred due to difficulty in getting lambing help. Generally, the 1944 wool purchase program seems to be satisfactory to local sheepmen. The coyotes are not much bother in this section.

Andy Dacar

Gustave, Harding County

We had nice fall weather up until the middle of November when we had a big snow storm. Then we had to feed

Good Feed Not "Good Luck" will bring you

MORE MILK AT LAMBING TIME
BETTER EWE HEALTH
STRONGER LAMBS

With the hay crop short this year and good roughage scarce, every sheepman knows that supplemental feeding of the ewe is necessary. SPERRY SURESHEEP NIBS is the feed you'll want. Here are your "Lucky Seven" reasons why:



1. Suitable for range and feed-lot feeding.
2. Adapted for breeding stock, the pregnant ewe, the nursing ewe and fattening lamb.
3. Helps bring fattening lambs on full feed successfully.
4. Supplies nutrients which balance well with grass or roughage available.
5. Easy on the sheep's mouth because they are pelleted in triangular form.
6. Palatable and readily eaten.
7. Less waste as compared to feeding grains like whole corn or barley.

Glad to give you further information on SURE-SHEEP NIBS. Just write to

SPERRY FLOUR, San Francisco

the flocks lots of hay and have been doing so ever since. We have sufficient grass and hay (December 19). The deep snow, however, put the range in a bad condition. We can get sufficient concentrates to last until the range becomes usable. Wild hay is \$6 a ton. There are fewer ewes bred this year due to the labor shortage. Herders are hard to obtain.

We are very well pleased with the price the Government paid us for our wool. We do not have much trouble with coyotes. We can't get all the ammunition we need but we are able to secure some from time to time.

I would like to express my appreciation of the Western South Dakota Sheep Growers Association. They are doing a lot for the sheepmen.

Dahlin Brothers

Buffalo, Harding County

The cost of operation has gone up about 25 per cent during the last two years. Due to the uncertainties in the industry there has been a 25 per cent reduction in our breeding bands. There have been some sales of yearling ewes at \$7.50 to \$8.50. The range is very good at this time (December 23) and so is the condition of our flocks. The weather, however, has been only partly beneficial. The loss from predators is about as great as it was last year, which takes in about 15 per cent of the lambs.

We have been able to get only one car of soybeans at \$64.50, railroad.

F. N. Gilbert

Utah

Vernal, Uintah County

The condition of the sheep is good (December 23), but the bands are smaller due mostly to labor, high expenses, and too much foreign wool. Forage on the winter range is good, better than in the past two years. Alfalfa hay is going at \$15 in the stack. We have been able to get some corn at \$2.35 unsacked in Colorado.

The weather has been dry, but the condition of the range is still good.

S. M. McCoy

Washington

Sunnyside, Yakima County

We have had good rains, better than last year, and the winter range is in good condition (December 1). I bought

my concentrates early but I understand that they are not available now. Alfalfa is quoted at \$21 a ton. Fine-wool yearlings are changing hands at \$11 and crossbreds at \$12.

Fewer ewe lambs were kept this fall and about 35 per cent fewer ewes bred, due to high costs and insufficient help. Growers are not very well satisfied with the results of 1944 wool sales. Wool from the same sheep brought less than it did last year. There is little ammunition available and there is a great need for more trappers.

I feel that the lamb returns to the

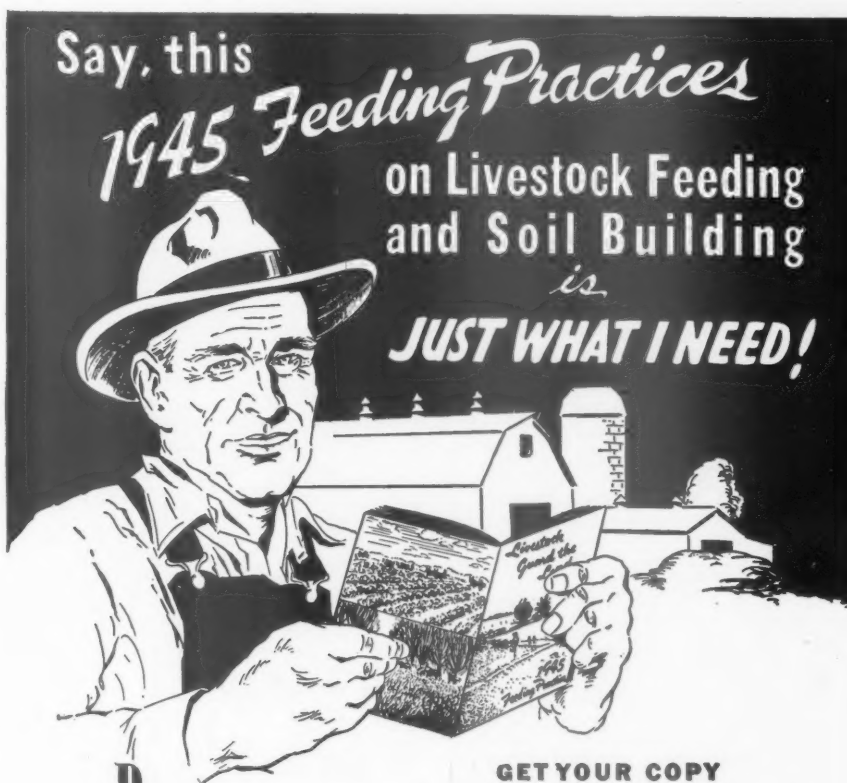
producer should be higher to take care of the increased costs.

Simon Martinez

Winthrop, Okanogan County

We have had a very dry summer and the feed is short on the winter ranges (November 22). Fine-wool yearlings are going at \$11 per head and crossbreds at \$12 to \$12.50. Only about half as many ewe lambs carried over and about 20 per cent fewer ewes bred in comparison with last year. The O.P.A. ceilings, high operating expenses and

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poor help have brought about this reduction. Another reason is that the price of lambs cannot compare to the price of labor. Labor is 50 per cent too high for the price of lambs and wool. For the times, the price of labor is all right, but in comparison, the prices received for lamb and wool are too low. There is little incentive for the sheepman to buy ewes to breed when he is bucking a losing game. Our breeding ewe numbers are going to be still smaller if the sheepmen don't get the cost of production and some profit.

We felt that we received less money than our wool was worth under the 1944 government plan. The coyote situation is bad and we are getting worried, as there are no trappers. We can secure enough ammunition at present.

Frank B. Morse

Yakima, Yakima County

We're having freezing weather but no snow (Dec. 24). The rains came too late and the range is in poor condition. The flocks are only fair. This doesn't compare at all favorably with the past two or three years.



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Breeding bands are about 20 per cent smaller than last year's. Help is poor and the men won't herd large bands. Alfalfa hay is priced at \$20 a ton; concentrates have been hard to get but we did secure some peas. The cost of operation is 50 per cent higher than it was in 1942 and 25 per cent higher than in 1943.

Emil Roberts

Ellensburg, Kittitas County

The flocks are in generally good condition. The winter ranges are fair, with late rains helping considerably. The winter so far (December 22), has been mild. The ranges seem to be better, but this is mostly due to smaller flocks. The cutting of the government allotments and high overhead caused a drop of about 15 per cent in the number of ewes bred. There have been very few recent sales of yearlings and the going price was \$10.50 to \$11.50. We are able to get a few tons of concentrates, Ful-O-Pep at \$40 a ton; alfalfa is \$30 a ton.

The loss from predators is less than it was last year, only 4 per cent. Running expenses during 1942 and 1943 were about the same, but this year and next are going to be considerably higher.

Don Saunders

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Benge, Adams County

The ranges are not as good as they have been, as we had a dry and poor growing season and therefore don't have the usual abundance of dry feed. The sheep are in good condition and the weather has been favorable up until the last few days (December 23), and we have had some frost and ice. The bands themselves are much smaller and there are about 25 per cent fewer ewes bred because of the high cost of hay and grain and the scarcity of labor.

Alfalfa is \$24 a ton and we have been able to get some pea pellets at \$39 f.o.b. Palouse, Washington. The loss from predators has not been as great as it was last year. Operating costs have been going up but I don't expect mine to be any higher next year than this.

G. E. Schiffner

Wyoming

Powell, Park County

Most of the flocks are in better shape this fall than usual. While the breeding bands are larger than last year, fewer ewes are being bred, due to lack of help and the high expenses which leave no profit.

The range is in good condition, better than usual, with more feed on it. Alfalfa is worth \$18 a ton and we can get some grain pellets at \$59 a ton. The weather has been just right (December 23). Expenses are almost double what they were in 1942, but only a third higher than in 1943. I think we should have an increase in the lamb and wool ceilings to offset some of the additional costs; otherwise, we will be forced to sell out next fall.

Johnson Sheep Company

Casper, Natrona County

The condition of the flocks is average or good, but the bands are smaller with a drop of 5 to 10 per cent in the ewes bred. This is because of the high cost of everything we buy, and the scarcity of suitable labor. I sold a few crossbred yearlings during November at \$11.50.

The range is in fair to poor condition depending on the location and amount of rainfall this last summer. There was very little growth of grass in this section during the summer months and the forage is much poorer than the last two years although we've had little summer

moisture in recent years. However, some sections have now had too much snow (December 23).

Alfalfa hay in the stack is about \$18, but we have paid \$25 per ton baled for 75 tons. We have been able to get some concentrates, about 20 per cent protein, at \$63 a ton. Many wool growers in this section feed mostly corn during the winter months and it has been readily available here at around \$2.40 to \$2.50 per hundred.

The loss from predators is less than last year, about 4 per cent on lambs and 1 per cent on ewes. Operating costs are double what they were in 1942 but only 20 per cent higher than in 1943.

We have just read that the War Food Administration will buy the coming wool clip at the same terms as last year and would like to see them adopt the Hill plan in handling the present wool situation.

It is quite evident that the price on lambs is not in line with cattle prices and around 11 cents for feeders is about 3 cents less than what we should be getting, if costs are to be considered. When Senator O'Mahoney stated at Casper that the farmers who make up to 21 per

cent of the population were getting 7 per cent of the national income as against the manufacturers who make up 24 per cent of the population and get 21 per cent of the national income, he gave the wool manufacturers one of the principal reasons why wool shouldn't be on the free list.

Many of the wool growers here remember the hospitality shown them by the Texas Association in past years and, weather permitting, will be on hand for the coming convention at Fort Worth.

C. P. Johnson

Lovell, Big Horn County

Alfalfa is selling at \$15 a ton. There are sufficient concentrates such as Purina and grain pellets available but the price, \$64 a ton, almost prohibits their use. I couldn't say what the percentage of loss from predators is, but it is about the same as last year.

The flocks are just fair, as the range is too dry in this part of the basin (December 22). There are about 20 per cent fewer ewes bred as there was little or no profit last year in raising lambs.

Jolly Brothers

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